Toronto metro

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Your essential daily news | WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2015 | High 26°C/Low 15°C Chance of showers

THE RIGHT TO BARE ARMS

Grade 10 student Josie Marshall takes part in a Stand in Solidarity rally Tuesday at the Etobicoke School of the Arts. The event was held to protest a fellow student being told her open-shouldered crop top was "inappropriate and looked too much like a bra." See story in metroNEWS. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TRANSIT

Tory open to change in subway route plan

Mayor John Tory appears willing to change the council-approved route for the controversial Scarborough subway in order to make it work with his SmartTrack ambitions.

But changes to the current plan could dramatically increase costs — in one scenario by at least $1 billion.

Though Tory remains committed to building a subway instead of an LRT, he is keeping an open mind on where that subway would go, how it would get there and how many stops it might include.

Tory's main problem stems from concerns that his heavy-rail SmartTrack and the planned three-stop subway would cannibalize each other's ridership.

Officially, Tory's office says it would be premature for him to weigh in on any of the routes ahead of a staff report expected as early as July.

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

University accepts bitcoins on campus. **Business**

Coming to a street nearer you

RETAIL

The Danforth had heretofore resisted a Starbucks invasion

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

News of a Starbucks coffee shop opening near Danforth and Monarch Park sounded like music to area resident Katie Dawe's ears.

"I'm super excited," said Dawe, who describes herself as a regular coffee drinker and a fan of the American coffee giant's products.

"The closest one from here is almost at Pape, which is very far."

For some reason, the east-end neighbourhood found itself in some sort of Starbucks desert. There's certainly no shortage of coffee shops around, but lovers of those Starbucks croissants and its various coffee flavours have had to look elsewhere.

A plan is underway to rebuild the former Top Notch pizza hut and transform it into a Starbucks coffee shop. The city has received an application with a proposal for rebuilding the interior of the two-storeyed house.

"Yeah? Are you sure it's coming?" asked a surprised Frank Khoshk, another resident of the locale. He thinks Starbucks is the "anchor" that would drive business improvement in the area.

"I've seen many empty stores around here, and it makes me worried," he said. "Thank God Starbucks is coming."

But as much as the brand may be well liked for its products, some worry its higher-than-usual prices could lead customers to stay away.

"If it comes, I will try to avoid it as much as possible," said Amine Ahmed as he ordered a coffee at a nearby coffee joint. However, he admits he would drop by for Wi-Fi and grab a bite in the process.

The imminent arrival doesn't worry similar businesses already in place. It's not as if Starbucks will be serving the same products that exist in other stores, and besides, people develop ties with local eateries over time, said Anna Nalyvayko, a customer rep at Pattisserie La Cigogne.

"I don't think it will affect our customers in any way."

Thank God Starbucks is coming.
Local resident Frank Khoshk

Pattisserie La Cigogne's Anna Nalyvayko isn't fazed by the impending arrival of Starbucks in her bakery's Danforth neighbourhood. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Captain John's last hurrah extended by one day

Captain John's, at the foot of Yonge Street, will be towed away for scrap before the end of May. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Toronto residents have one more day to bid farewell to Captain John's.

The former floating restaurant was scheduled to depart from its berth at the foot of Yonge Street Tuesday, but a heavy wind warning put the towing operation on hold.

Weather permitting, the vessel will now be leaving Thursday at 10 a.m.

The tow is the riskiest part of the job, said Wayne Elliott of Marine Recycling, the company in charge of dismantling Captain John's. Such a large boat "acts like a giant sail," he said, so crews will wait for the right wind conditions before moving it.

"Dead calm is ideal. Less than 15 knots is required."

Once Captain John's leaves its berth, it will be towed across Lake Ontario and through the Welland Canal to Marine Recycling's facility in Port Colborne.

It will take a crew of 50 workers roughly three months to disassemble the ship and sell it for scrap metal, Elliott said.

'SWATTING'

Pranks prompt police silence

You may write a political blog or have gotten into an online spat on Twitter. Whatever the reasons for being targeted, you'll only know you've become a victim of "swatting" when masked police officers with assault rifles break down your front door.

It's a traumatic prank that appears to have befallen a Richmond Hill family on Sunday, when York Region police responded to a chillingly realistic 911 call that led them to believe a schizophrenic man had shot and killed his wife and was hunting down his son.

It seems to have occurred again Monday, when a call to Peel police that armed individuals were on a Brampton street looking to harm people caused five schools to be put on lockdown.

And while it appears that swatting has been around for many years, police services are being very tight-lipped about the phenomenon, not wanting to reveal investigative techniques nor provide a how-to guide for copycats.

"These types of calls, when they're done by professional hackers, can be very challenging to trace and track down," said York Regional Police spokesperson Const. Andy Pattenden. "They're using sophisticated technology to mask their identity when they make these calls (and) sound effects are included (to make them) very believable."

The callers use "spoofed" phone lines over the Internet to make it appear to 911 operators that the call is coming from a particular location — sometimes inside the targeted house. This can lead police to believe there is a hostage-taking or a shooting going on, when really a family could just be sitting down to dinner.

Swatters have targeted celebrities both big and small, prompting police raids at the L.A. mansions of Justin Bieber, Ashton Kutcher and Miley Cyrus. The prank has also been linked to online gaming culture after it was used in a campaign to harass feminist video game critics last year. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"The thrill of it has come from using the Internet to create a media spectacle."

Owen Livermore, who specializes in the intersection of online gaming and culture

TdotPickup shuts down after disturbing video

THE metro EFFECT

Threatening YouTube clip of website founder deleted

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

A Toronto company that trained pick-up artists in and around Eaton Centre has shut down its website and vanished from the Internet a day after Metro reported on a disturbing video featuring one of its founders.

On Monday, Metro reported police were investigating after a pick-up artist known as "xsouldeath" uploaded a YouTube video of himself muttering violent threats about a woman who rejected him near Yonge-Dundas Square. The clip has since been deleted from YouTube.

A man calling himself "E.J." contacted Metro Monday evening and said he was a pick-up coach with TdotPickup. He claimed to have spoken with xsouldeath and insisted his comments had been misunderstood.

"This whole thing about getting them back, all he was talking about is basically getting them back by getting a really good-looking girl and rubbing it in their face," he said.

"This whole thing about getting them back, all he was talking about is basically ... getting a really good looking girl and rubbing it in her face."

'E.J.', who Metro has learned is likely xsouldeath

Metro has since learned that E.J. and xsouldeath are likely the same person.

Social media profiles of E.J. and xsouldeath share many of the same photos, all of which appear to be the man in the YouTube video. A student profile on the Seneca College website lists his name as Elton Aguiar.

TdotPickup's website was registered by an Elton Aguiar and the phone number listed on the site's registration is the same one E.J. used to contact Metro.

The site was taken offline late Monday night, but a cached version advertises classes "to increase your changes (sic) of finding success in your love life and picking up women" for $220.

Pick-up artists have been known to frequent Yonge-Dundas Square, as well as Eaton's Centre, which has taken efforts in the past to stop PUA events from meeting at the mall.

A screenshot of YouTube user xsouldeath. YOUTUBE

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY AMBASSADORS NEW SCARBOROUGH BRANCH 100 Toronto Public Library ambassadors walked from the Toronto Reference Library to Nathan Phillips Square, to mark the opening of the 100th branch at the Scarborough Civic Centre. The "TPL100" sported shirts listing 100 reasons to visit the facilities and handed out bookmarks to passersby en route. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

YORK

Police thwart bovine break

Two suspects escaped from their locked compound by breaking through a fence on Tuesday. One of them, known for his poor temper and tendency to charge anyone who approaches him, led an accomplice through a field and then to the main road.

This wasn't their first break for freedom, York Regional Police said. They're known repeat offenders, and three officers rushed to the scene in an attempt to contain the pair as they disrupted traffic on King Vaughan Road in Kipling by carelessly walking into oncoming cars.

Damian, the "cow with the horns," and several accomplices snagged traffic for the better part of an hour after Damian apparently led the group off their farm by breaking through a fence on the south side, police said.

It took the officers, who police said did not have wrangling training, the better part of an hour to safely corral the cows and convince them to return to their green pasture, about which "Damian is less than pleased."

The entire event, which was live-Tweeted on York Regional Police account, garnered dozens of favourites and retweets and the hashtag, #YRPGoneWild, even briefly trended in Canada. "Udderly unacceptable," was one YRP update. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Man charged in Mississauga church vandalism

A 22-year-old Mississauga man is facing criminal charges after a Catholic church and elementary school were spray-painted with graffiti.

Both buildings had black spray paint on their exterior walls and the face on a statue of Jesus in front of the church was spray-painted black. Police launched a hate-crime investigation because of particular comments written on the outside walls of the church.

Police arrested Iqbal Hessan, 22, on Tuesday around 12:15 a.m. He is charged with breaking and entering and committing an indictable offence and five counts of mischief over $5,000. He is set to appear in court later on Tuesday for a bail hearing.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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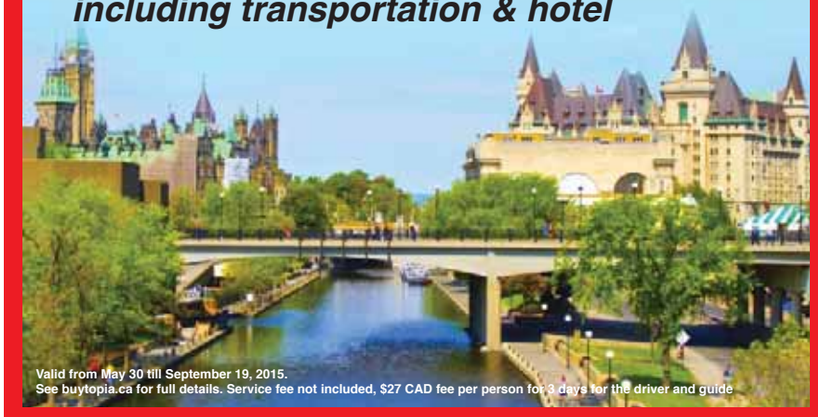

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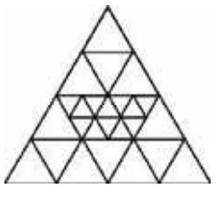

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Special Olympians play ball with soccer stars

Four members of the Canadian women's national soccer team surprised a group of Special Olympics athletes at Trinity Field on Tuesday as part of an initiative organized by Coca-Cola. Diana Matheson, Selenia Iacchelli, Robyn Gayle and Desiree Scott led the group in a lively afternoon of drills and discussed how to overcome hurdles and the importance of inclusion in sport.

LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

MEDIA

Toronto Sun hires ex-Ford secretary as editor

Former Rob Ford press secretary Adrienne Batra will be taking over the reins at the Toronto Sun on June 1, owner Postmedia announced Tuesday.

At the same time, the company said current editor-in-chief Wendy Metcalfe, who was also at the helm of the Ottawa Sun and free commuter daily 24HRS Toronto, will be leaving the company.

"Adrienne brings tremendous energy, political acumen and experience to our leadership team," James Wallace, vice-president editorial, Suns, and former Sun editor, said in a statement.

The announcement comes less than two months after Postmedia, publisher of the National Post and other Canadian daily newspapers, finalized its $316-million purchase of 175 newspapers from Quebecor, including the Sun chain.

A Postmedia spokeswoman refused to say if Metcalfe was fired or resigned. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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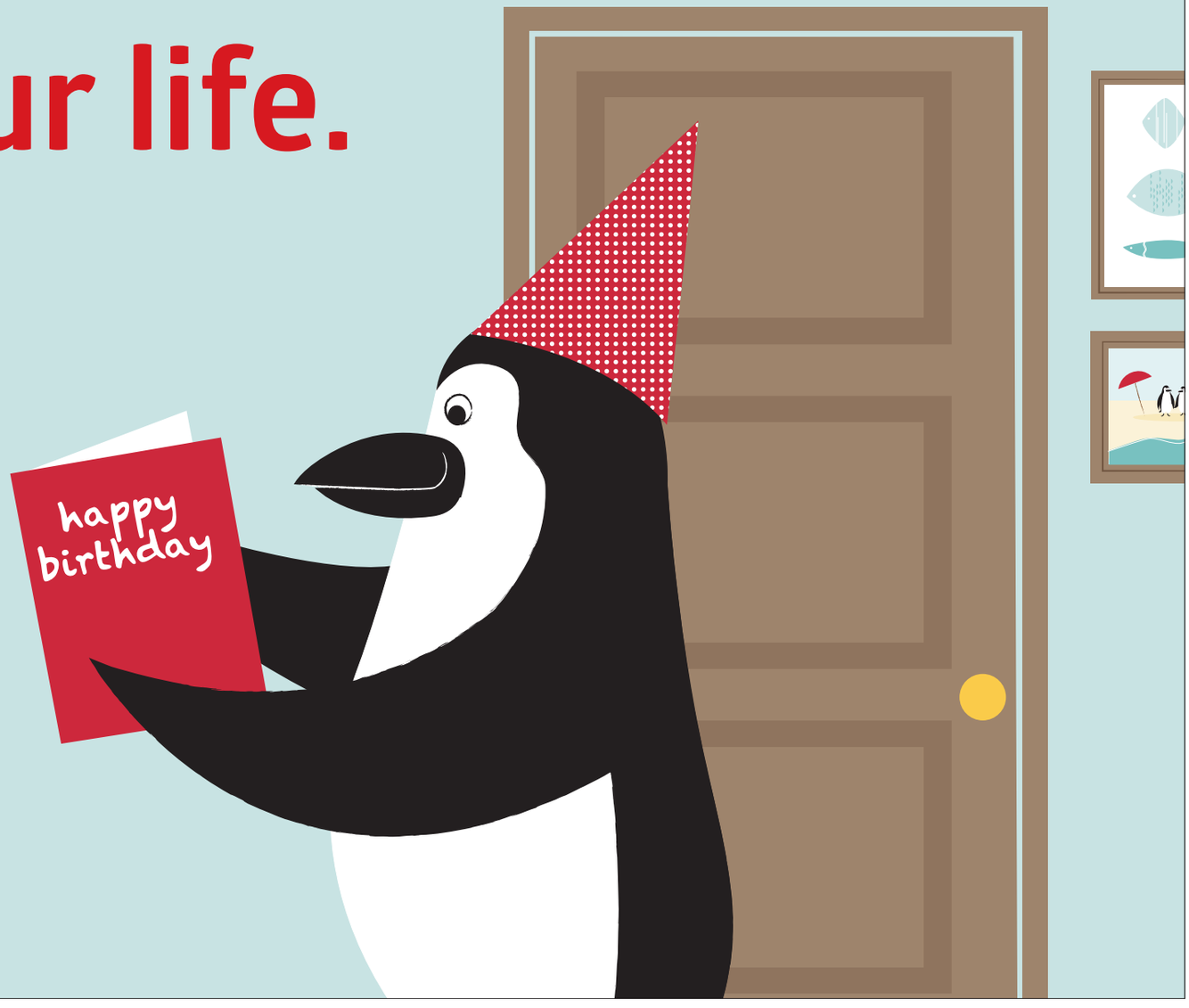

Mealshare expands in Toronto

RESTAURANTS

Designated menu items get donated to those in need

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Buying a Duck Confit pizza at Pizzeria Libretto just got more sharable.

For every Bosc Pearl or Mozzarella bought at the local food chain, a second one will be donated to someone in need.

It's part of an effort to expand the reach of Mealshare, a countrywide initiative that seeks to make dining experiences more charitable.

"Donating really goes with our values," said Stephanie Beutt, general manager at Pizzeria Libretto on the Danforth.

"We are very proud to be part of this program."

Mealshare first partnered with a handful of Toronto restaurants in October.

This month they are adding over a dozen more eateries to their list of participants.

The rules are simple.

Every participating restaurant has designated food items on the menu that are part of the plan.

For every order of the item, an equivalent meal is donated to Mealshare, which will give the donations to a partner charity.

In Toronto, the organization works with the Parkdale Activity Recreation Centre to collect and donate meals to the city's less fortunate.

Internationally, Mealshare collaborates with Save the Children.

"Restaurant owners are really passionate and committed to making the difference in the community," said Nicole Tupecka, who is overseeing the program in Toronto.

RESTAURANTS

Mealshare restaurants:
Café Belong, Enoteka Sociale, Fabarnak Restaurant & Catering, Glory Hole Doughnuts, Hawthorne Food & Drinks, Khao San Road, Marben, Nana, Pizzeria Libretto, Richmond Station, Sparrow Restaurant, Terroni, The George Street Diner.

Manthan, a chef at Pizzeria Libretto's Danforth location, loads a pizza into the oven on Monday. The upscale pizza joint is participating in the Mealshare program. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Mealshare was launched two years ago in Calgary, and is currently operating in seven provinces across the country.

Over 250,000 meals have been donated since the inaugural launch, about 4,000 of them in Toronto.

Pussy Riot coming to Pride

Pussy Riot is bringing punk protest to Toronto.

The feminist Russian rockers are among several high-profile performers and activists, including David Furnish, Cyndi Lauper, Chaz Bono and John Waters, who are participating in Pride Toronto this summer, Pride officials announced Tuesday.

Pussy Riot will serve as the event's international grand marshals, leading the Pride parade and taking the stage for a performance at Yonge-Dundas Square on June 28.

"Pride is an arts and culture celebration, but it is also a political celebration and demonstration," said Mathieu Chantelois, executive director of Pride Toronto.

The punk art collective made international headlines in 2012 after three members were sentenced to two years in prison after staging an anti-Putin performance in a Moscow cathedral. Member Yekaterina Samutsevich was freed later that year, while Maria (Masha) Alyokhina and Nadezhda (Nadya) Tolokonnikova were released in December 2013.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CONTEXT

In Russia, Pride celebrations are often met with violence. Human rights groups routinely criticize Russia for its treatment of members of the LGBT community.

Students dress to protest

EDUCATION

Young women donning crop tops to fight dress codes

In her 14 years of school, Alexi Halket has never been suspended or expelled. Until this week, the Grade 12 student hadn't even seen the inside of her principal's office.

All that changed when the Etobicoke School of the Arts student dressed for class on Monday, choosing to bare her midriff with a sleeveless, turquoise and black patterned crop top.

The shirt, she was told by a vice-principal, who pulled her into the office, was "too inappropriate and looked too much like a bra." Halket disagreed, and when she stormed out of a 90-minute meeting about her attire she did so with a plan that spread like wildfire over social media that evening.

By Tuesday, Halket's 18th birthday, it had trickled down to hundreds of young women across the GTA, who made their way to class dressed in crop tops of their own emblazoned with messages fighting dress codes, which they say unfairly target females.

Their goal was simple, said Halket: "We wanted to stand in solidarity against people making women cover their bodies because it's offensive and inappropriate."

As they walked the halls of about 25 Toronto District School Board schools and a handful of universities, there was a flurry of wide-eyed glances and crowds of new supporters — including plenty of men.

Alexi Halket, a Grade 12 student at Etobicoke School of the Arts, organized a protest after she was pulled into the principal's office Monday for wearing a shirt with open shoulders that her principal likened to a bra. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **Why would you send a female home because guys can't control themselves when they see a girl's outfit?**
>
> Alexi Halket, student at Etobicoke School of the Arts

Many used it as an opportunity to exchange stories about previous trips to the principal's office and run-ins with teachers who, they say, doled out detentions and ordered offending outfits — yoga pants deemed "too tight," a spaghetti-strap shirt revealing a girl's shoulders, or a skirt just a few millimeters above the knee — removed.

In contrast, they said, boys are allowed to run around the gym and school yards shirtless, seemingly skirting dress codes aimed at desexualizing institutions.

"We are just trying to love our bodies and appreciate them for what they are, even with a dress code," Halket told Torstar, noting she had never been dinged for an outfit infraction before. "Why would you send a female home because guys can't control themselves when they see a girl's outfit?"

But at Etobicoke School of the Arts, where Halket's movement was born, principal Rob MacKinnon claimed the dress code has been a "non-issue" over the past few years.

When students paraded around the halls of the high school Tuesday baring their stomachs, he noted there wasn't even any reprimanding.

Instead, he said, he was "proud of the students" for sparking such fervour, and invited them to a lunchtime chat about the dress code — a "pretty open and purposefully vague" policy without common caveats, like skirts that must be at the knee or longer and tank-top straps required to be larger than the width of three fingers.

"For a student at a swim meet in the morning to come to school in a Speedo is not appropriate, (just) like a student at school in a bikini is not appropriate," he said he told the students. "There is a line, and now we need to define it."

Over in North York, where about 15 students at Earl Haig Secondary School walked into the building with their midriffs exposed, prepared for the consequences, 17-year-old Zoe Santo said one teacher rushed over to her and told her "cover up."

"What about that is sexualized?" Klebanoff questioned. "This is over-exaggerating, and students should be modest, but you shouldn't be pulled out of class for wearing those kinds of outfits."

TDSB spokeswoman Shari Schwartz-Maltz said she wasn't aware of schools other than Etobicoke School of the Arts where protests were being staged, but said the board allows individual schools to customize rules around dress in the code of conduct.

When they delve into the professional world, she said, students will quickly find that it is not appropriate to show up in a sports bra or a crop top, but she added: "We encourage kids to think critically and speak their minds. There is so much passion here, and this is part of learning."

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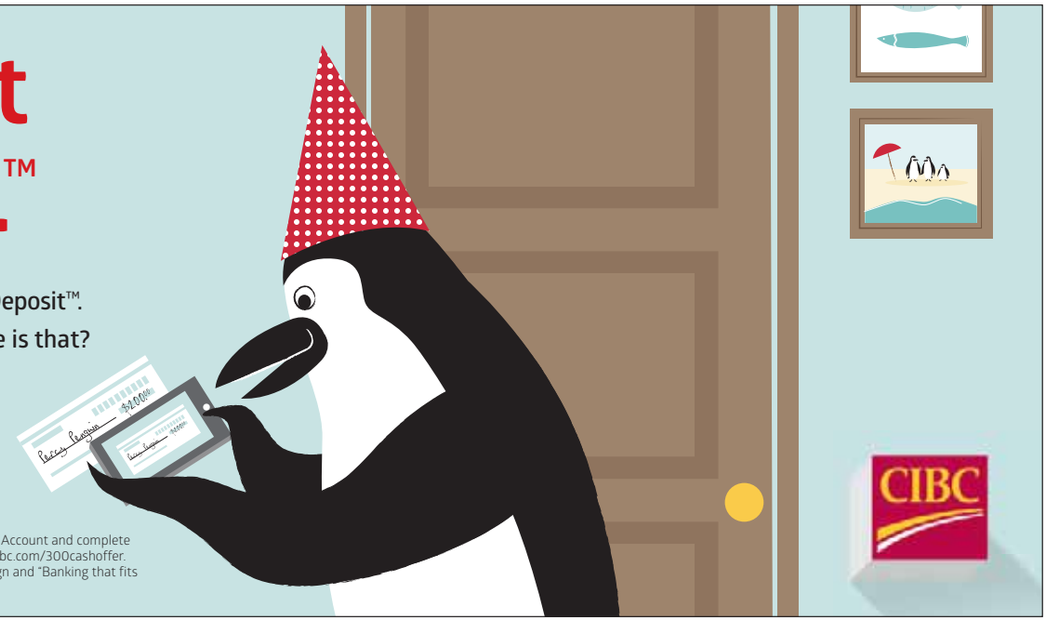

ATTRACTIONS

Zoo visits fell in '14, COO says

The Toronto Zoo used nearly $1 million in reserve funds, plus "cost containment" and "holdback measures" to cover a revenue shortfall of nearly $3.8 million caused by decreased attendance and low revenues in 2014.

Draft audited financial statements are further evidence of trends identified last year in a report from the zoo's chief operating officer: After a banner year in 2013, a frigid winter, high gas prices and a new downtown aquarium drove attendance and revenue down in 2014.

The facility's revenues topped $54 million in 2013, according to the audit, and the facility transferred $2.938 million into the Zoo Stabilization Reserve fund.

Last year, revenues fell to $47,970,609, a drop spurred partly by a decline in the money generated by admissions, gift shop operations, parking and other sources.

The zoo transferred $904,486 from the reserve fund to help cover the revenue shortfall.

Chief operating officer Robin Hale said the zoo's attendance will vary from year to year, and suggested that the facility will save money or dip into reserves accordingly.

A dip in attendance in 2014 was likely after the zoo's "blockbuster" 2013, when the zoo opened its panda exhibition, Hale said.

The zoo's revenue was under budget by $3.792 million in 2014; the zoo's 1,186,019 visits in 2014 were 21 per cent below target, according to a report from Hale.

Hale believes an upcoming "augmented reality" exhibition produced in partnership with National Geographic will help drum up attendance.

"I think we're going to probably be tracking on-budget this year," Hale said.

A cheetah run, where the animals will chase after a lure to showcase their speed, will also be popular, Hale predicted.

Kiko, "a bit of a famous giraffe" with a big social-media following, will be arriving at the zoo soon as well, said Jennifer Tracey, the zoo's senior director of marketing, communications and partnerships.

Zoo attendance through the end of April was 4.8 per cent below last year, according to Hale's report, but there has been strong attendance in May.

Hale, Tracey and Councillor Raymond Cho cited the opening of the Ripley's Aquarium as a challenge for the zoo, though it's unclear how strongly it affected the zoo's attendance.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rob Ford released from hospital, 'feeling good'

A slimmed-down Rob Ford talks to reporters at Toronto City Hall on Tuesday. His office was his first stop after being released from Mount Sinai hospital following cancer surgery to remove a malignant tumour. DAVID RIDER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CITY HALL

Councillor heads to office instead of home to rest

After recovering in hospital from major, life-saving cancer surgery, doctors told Councillor Rob Ford he could go home and rest.

At least, that's what the grinning, gingerly walking former mayor told reporters at city hall a short time later, adding he instead told his aide to make a beeline for his office.

"I was going crazy, I had to get back here ...," said Ford, clad in shorts, adding he was "feeling good."

He showed off a belt around his belly to "hold things together," adding that he is wearing one surgical drain, down from three.

"I just wanted to come down and make a couple of calls and touch base with a few people."

> **"I was going crazy. I had to get back here.** Coun. Rob Ford

Two weeks earlier, a surgical team operated on Ford at Mount Sinai Hospital for almost 10 hours. They opened his abdomen with two large incisions and removed a rare and aggressive pleomorphic liposarcoma tumour.

Doctors had told Ford that, if surgery was unsuccessful, they could do nothing more to save his life. He still has a battle for long-term survival and was told to go home and rest until September.

And yet, Ford said he will try to get to city council June 10 for a big vote on the future of the east Gardiner Expressway. He favours the status-quo maintain option, which city staff have effectively taken off the table to focus the debate on full or partial removal.

"We have to save the Gardiner," he said.

"I'm feeling good enough to come to work for a few minutes and then I'll just gradually work my way in. I'm not just going to go and lay down and, you know, get better ... I'll sit in a chair here and do calls."

Ford said his recovery has not all been rosy. "When I came out of the operation, it was like somebody just stabbed me," he said, adding painkillers didn't stop him from "basically crying like a baby."

On Monday, after a visit with his staff and Mayor John Tory, who popped by his office, Ford said he planned to "go home and play with (children) Stephanie and Dougie as much as I can.

"My wife came this morning just to see how the bandages and all that, so I have to change my dressings and she can help me do that. It's great, I'm pretty happy."

Asked if he is still focused on running for mayor in 2018, Ford laughed and said: "I can't wait for that."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

HOMES

City should turf bylaws for fake lawns, Stintz says

It has happened as she drives down the street, prepares to leave the house for work in the morning and mingles with locals at community events.

Wherever she goes, Julie Collins finds herself being flagged down by neighbours who are amazed at just how lush and green she manages to keep her Scarborough lawn.

To her surprise, her local councillor even handed her an award for its beauty a few years ago.

Her secret, she says, doesn't involve hours of weeding and watering under the blistering sun. That's unheard of when it comes to her lawn care regimen,

> **People like myself have had an artificial lawn for six years and have never received notices of violation.** Karen Stintz

because three summers ago she installed artificial grass.

"It's the most brilliant idea," she told the Star, after describing how she had been through two grub-eaten lawns and many hours spent hose in hand, fighting the heat that was burning her grass, before she opted for artificial turf. But while Collins' neighbours might be singing its praises, city officials aren't.

Despite the sprinkling of artificial front lawns in Toronto, the city's director of transportation services, Jacqueline White, says plenty of them defy right-of-way encroachment bylaws and regulations on soft landscaping.

Collins claims her lawn is within the bylaw, but not all of them are. About 20 properties have been discovered over the past year to have illegal artificial lawns, caught via complaints and routine inspections, said White, who noted that the violators have been slapped with removal notices.

While White said the city has yet to take further action on the bylaw offences, former local councillor Karen Stintz pointed out that "people like myself have had an artificial lawn for six years and have never received notices of violation."

That's one reason she's calling for the city to reverse its policy against artificial lawns, rooted in issues involving the product's "lack of permeability, storm water run-off, impact to city services such as snow clearing and possible impacts to ecosystems."

Stintz dismisses the official grumbles, saying her lawn is completely permeable and free of drainage problems, and has become the talk of her street — with neighbours laughing as they see her and her kids out there vacuuming it every year.

Artificial grass is a low-maintenance way to achieve the perfectly manicured look, she said. "It doesn't make any sense to not have artificial turf as a landscaping alternative.

"To apply for an encroachment (allowance)," she added, "is equally ludicrous."

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REAL ESTATE

Board to iron out condo spats

The 1.3 million Ontario residents who live in condominiums will get a new, less expensive way to resolve disputes under proposed legislation to be introduced Wednesday.

The province will create a Condominium Authority to provide a range of services including dispute resolution, so condo owners won't have to go to court to clear up a disagreement with a neighbour or their condo board.

Consumer Services Minister David Orazietti said that the Authority will be funded by fees paid by condo developers and by a $1-a-month levy on individual condo owners.

It will provide advice for condo owners along with mediation services to resolve disputes such as noise complaints, bylaw infractions or an inability to get financial documents from the condo board of directors.

Orazietti says the costs of settling condo disputes should be reduced to hundreds of dollars instead of thousands of dollars, and will not need to involve expensive court time.

The province will also create the Condo Manager Licensing Authority to provide training and regulate the 2,500 people who manage the 10,000 condominium developments in Ontario, which have about 700,000 individual units.

Orazietti says right now there are no qualifications to become a condo manager, so a new licensing system will be introduced for individuals and for management firms, along with a new code of ethics.

About half of all new home sales in Ontario are condominiums, but the average buyer often finds it difficult to digest all the legal documents surrounding one of the most complex — and often the largest — financial transactions in their life.

$1

Monthly fee each condo owner will pay to fund the new condominium authority.

"For the average person, it's not a level playing field right now and our legislation will significantly strengthen consumer protection for condo owners," Orazietti said.

The changes to the Condominium Act will also tighten the rules to avoid surprise hikes in condo fees. Some developers put clauses in contracts that allow them to own common areas such as the lobby, and then lease those areas back to the board in the second year, triggering a big increase in monthly fees for owners.

"It's about clear language contracts that are transparent," Orazietti said. "The condo buyer will get a guide through the Condo Authority so they understand and know their rights, (so) they ask the right questions."

There will also be new rules on how condo boards are run to make them more transparent and accountable, with new qualification requirements for directors that will require some basic training.

The changes will make it easier for individual owners to call for a vote of the condo board on an issue, and will require boards to issue reports to owners on a regular basis on topics such as insurance or any legal proceedings.

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Ann Barclay plans to get her Malton group to take down illegal signs. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Residents enlisted against sign blight

MISSISSAUGA

City deputizes citizenry in bid to combat nuisance

They take over Mississauga's pristine green streetscapes every spring — more than 25,000 of them, popping up like dandelions. Now, the city is asking residents to take up the fight against the growing blight of illegal signs.

Advertising everything from duct cleaning and driving schools to wet-basement repairs, they had become so ubiquitous — along streets and sidewalks, on top of medians and even taped to stop signs — that seven years ago Mississauga passed a "nuisance signs" bylaw. Last week, a new effort was launched to get residents involved.

The law allows any resident 18 or older who completes a form and gets approval to become an authorized nuisance sign remover.

Though one online commenter claims to have signed up and removed 4,000 signs, there's been little take-up on the volunteer initiative. So last week, on Coun. Pat Saito's recommendation, an awareness program was launched to get more residents on board.

"We're talking about illegal signs that are on public property ... As soon as spring comes, they are all over the place," said Saito.

"They're everywhere," agrees resident Ann Barclay, who plans on signing up and driving around with members of her Malton citizens' group to remove the illegal advertisements around her neighbourhood.

"As soon as spring comes, they are all over the place."
Coun. Pat Saito

"You name it, they're stuck in the ground or taped to a poll somewhere: tutoring services, handymen, every business you can think of. It really looks bad. It's all over Mississauga."

Real estate signs advertising things such as open houses are exempt, as are garage-sale signs, as long as they are put up and taken down within one day of the event — otherwise, they're open game for nuisance sign removers. The bylaw frowns on residents removing signs in areas posing a safety risk, so those on medians and intersections are not to be touched.

Darren Bryan, the city's supervisor of the sign program, has one full-time staffer removing signs year round and six students hired for four months in the summer. His department removes 25,000 illegal signs a year — and that doesn't include those taken down by other departments or residents.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SMOKING

Ontario regulates e-cigarettes

Electronic cigarettes are now treated in the same way as regular cigarettes in Ontario under a new law that also bans the sale of flavoured tobacco and requires restaurants to put calorie counts on menus.

E-cigarettes now cannot be sold to anyone younger than 19, their promotion and display are regulated and their use is banned in smoke-free areas.

The province's associate health minister calls e-cigarettes an "emerging technology" and says Ontario is leaving the door open to the possibility they can help some smokers break their addiction.

Dipika Damerla says if Health Canada gives its stamp of approval to them as cessation aids, the act can be changed through regulation to treat e-cigarettes as stop-smoking products in terms of where they can be sold and displayed.

Progressive Conservative MPP Randy Hillier was the only member of the legislature to vote against the bill Tuesday, saying the law severely limits the availability of e-cigarettes, which he says help people to stop smoking. He said the vaporizers have helped him "substantially" reduce how much he smokes and three of his staff members have quit completely with their help.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS GUM GUYS CHEW TO KEEP CITY CLEAN Matt Lloyd, 19, left, and Greg Lloyd, 16, are the Gum Guys. They have been hired to clean gum off of Nathan Phillips Square with their portable steamers and brushes. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Inventor aims to guide the blind

ULTRASONIC NAVIGATION

Bats inspired Alex Deans to make scanning sensor belt

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

When Alex Deans discovered how difficult it can be to get around when you can't see, he decided to do something about it.

The 17-year-old is the brains behind iAid, an ultrasonic navigation device for the visually impaired. The budding inventor is being honoured for his work at the Ontario Science Centre next week.

"It all started when I was 12. I met a woman who was having a lot of trouble crossing a really busy street downtown," he said. "I got to talking with her and discussing what was available for the blind community and what wasn't. She told me that there wasn't really any device that would give her independence and confidence."

Drawing on what he'd learned about bats' use of echolocation, Deans began developing iAid. It's a belt that has four ultrasonic sensors that scan the environment for obstacles and works with a joystick and smartphone to guide the user safely to their destination.

"It's kind of like having somebody hold your hand and lead you where to go. It's like having somebody by your side 24/7," he said.

Over the years, Deans has worked closely with the CNIB in his hometown of Windsor, bringing in various prototypes for testing.

His work with visually impaired community really impressed the judges for the 2015 Weston Youth Innovation Award, said Hooley McLaughlin, chief Science officer of the Ontario Science Centre.

"It's just a beautiful invention, isn't it? It's just amazing," McLaughlin said. "He saw a real-world problem and did something about it."

Alex Deans wearing his invention, the iAid CONTRIBUTED

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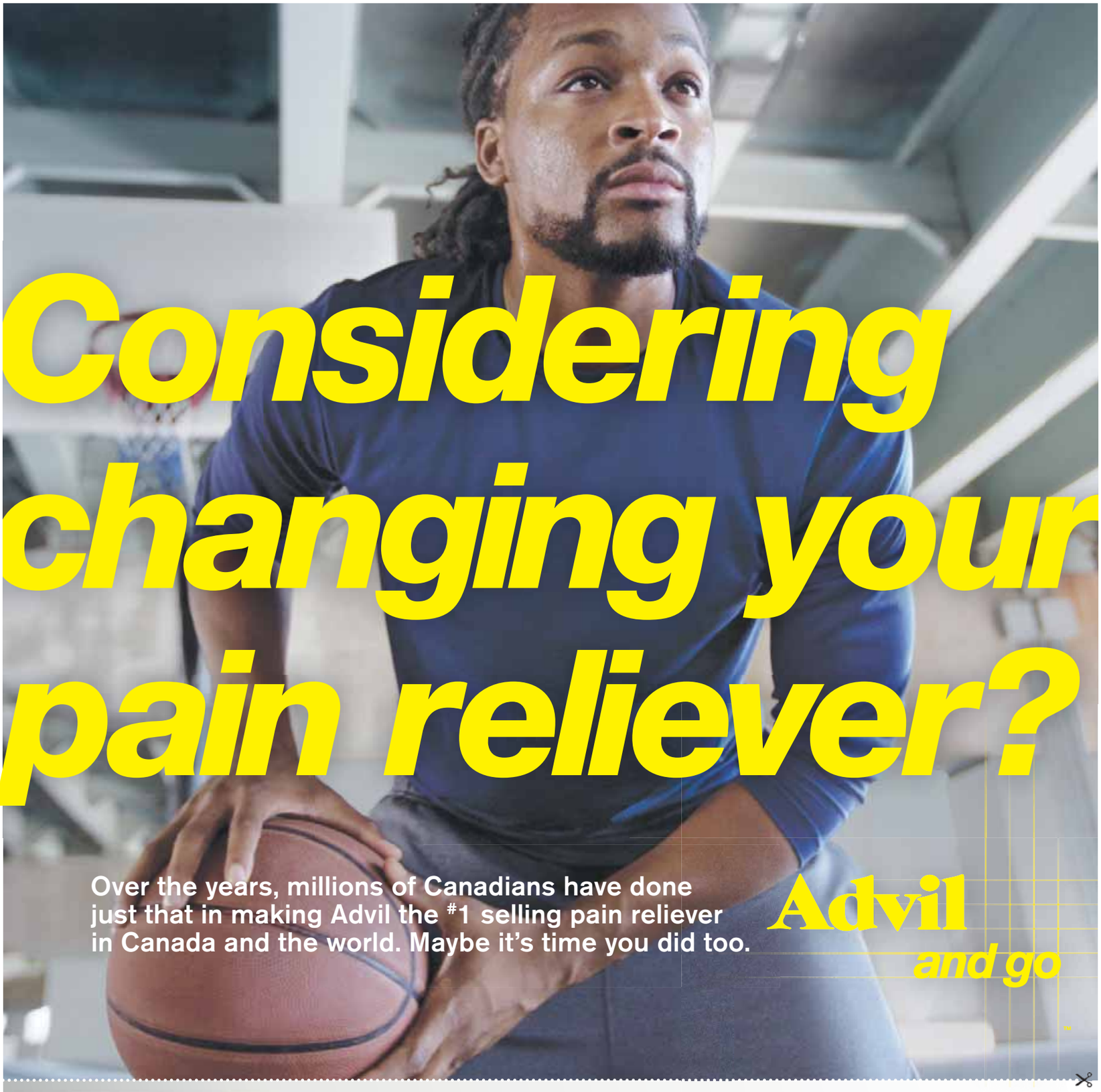
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Teacher strikes ruled illegal

EDUCATION

Government still willing to negotiate: Minister

Some 70,000 Ontario teens were scrambling to head back to school Wednesday after a sudden ruling by the Ontario Labour Relations Board declared their teachers' strikes illegal and ordered them back to work immediately.

"What? This is insane! We were thinking we would go back Friday or Monday, but I have to go tomorrow? I don't even know what (timetable) day it is," said a gob-smacked Cameron Penn, in Grade 12 at Pine Ridge Secondary School in Pickering in Durham Region, where teachers at 24 high schools have been off work since April 20.

"But I guess it's better to go back, even for a few weeks — it's hard to teach yourself calculus at home, trust me."

The 53-page labour relations board ruling handed down at 5 p.m. Tuesday by chair Bernard Fishbein found local strikes by the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) in Durham, Peel and Sudbury's Rainbow District were unlawful "at least in part" because they were focused on issues like class size that are bargained at a central, province-wide table, not locally. Under Ontario's new two-tiered bargaining system, local strikes are allowed over only locally bargained issues and province-wide strikes are permitted over "central" issues.

Fishbein did not forbid the three local strikes permanently, but slapped a two-week "moratorium" on them until the OSSTF either goes back to local bargaining in those boards or takes step to "purify" or "cleanse" any strike action that pertains to central bargaining.

But the moratorium may be moot, given that the Wynne government has introduced back-to-work legislation — expected to pass Thursday — that will ban strikes in the three boards until the end of the school year. Earlier this week, an expert panel advised the province that the strikes were putting the school year in jeopardy.

"We need to get kids back in school, so until we know what the legal implications of the (ruling) are — until we've heard from OSSTF in terms of their intent for the whole rest of the school year — we are going to keep debating the back-to-work legislation and move forward on that," Education Minister Liz Sandals told reporters.

"We want to make sure that when the kids go back to school that they stay there … for the rest of the year … we want that to be absolutely clear," Sandals said, adding the OLRB ruling and back-to-work legislation don't "change our intent to negotiate a central agreement."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Education Minister Liz Sandals rose in the legislature Tuesday to ask for unanimous consent for her proposed legislation forcing striking teachers back to work. The NDP said no to her request. RICHARD J. BRENNAN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BACKGROUND

A timeline of teacher labour strife in Ontario the current round of bargaining:

Aug. 31, 2014: Contracts expire for teachers across Ontario.

April 17, 2015: Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation says their central talks with the province and the Ontario Public School Boards' Association are at an impasse.

April 20-May 4: Durham, Rainbow and Peel district school boards go on strike.

May 12: Durham, Rainbow and Peel boards ask the Ontario Labour Relations Board to declare the strikes illegal.

May 14: Ontario Labour Relations Board hearing begins.

May 26: Ontario Labour Relations Board declares the Rainbow, Peel and Durham strikes illegal. All three boards say schools will reopen the following day.

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SENATE BUMPY RIDE FOR CHONG'S REFORM ACT Conservative MP Michael Chong, seen here in 2013, got a rough ride from some of his own caucus colleagues as he promoted his Reform Act at a Senate committee on Tuesday. The act is billed as a way to rebalance power between members of Parliament and party leaders. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Immigration ranking drops

CITIZENSHIP

Canada's fall on global index due to Ottawa's policies: Group

Canada has dropped out of the top five countries in integrating immigrants into the society due to policy changes by Ottawa to restrict access to family reunification and citizenship for newcomers.

According to the latest world ranking by a Brussels-based think tank, Canada has slipped from third to sixth place among 38 developed countries in allowing migrants access to equal rights, support and opportunities.

Although Canada is still considered a welcoming country for newcomers amid the global anti-immigration and anti-terror tide, the Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) says its policy shift to the right raises questions about the future of the country's traditionally inclusive integration system.

"It is a cause of concern, one that we need to watch," said Thomas Huddleston of the Migration Policy Group, lead author of the European Union-funded, peer-reviewed index. Canada's 2015 MIPEX profile will be released in Toronto Wednesday.

"With Canada rolling back on some provisions from family reunification and citizenship, it is going to have an impact on immigrant integration. Other countries will follow Canada."

Based on a detailed checklist of 167 indicators, researchers surveyed the latest government policies in affording migrants access to eight areas: labour market mobility, family reunion, education, health, political participation, permanent residence, access to nationality and anti-discrimination efforts.

"One key to Canada's immigration model has been that selected immigrants arrive as permanent residents with equal rights to invest in their integration and quickly become full Canadian citizens," says the 2015 MIPEX profile on Canada.

"Recent delays and restrictions to family reunion and citizenship may bring unintended consequences for permanent residents, doing more harm than good to Canada's integration outcomes.

"The increasing number of temporary workers may also be discouraged and delayed to invest with integration, as they have limited opportunities to try out new jobs or trainings, learn English or French for free or become permanent residents, citizens and voters."

Professor Harald Bauder, academic director of the Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement, said he was surprised Canada still fared quite well in light of the dramatic changes made to the immigration and refugee system by the Conservative government.

"Maybe, when compared to the significant changes made by countries all across the map, we're still doing quite well despite the damages inflicted by Ottawa's policy changes," Bauder said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BY THE NUMBERS

The project compiles and standardizes factual data from its local research partners in all EU member states, Australia, Canada, Iceland, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States — and ranks the countries based on a 100-point scale.

In MIPEX's last edition, published in 2011, Canada scored 72 points and ranked third place, just behind Sweden and Portugal, which earned an overall 83 points and 79 points respectively.

> **It is a cause of concern, one that we need to watch.**
> Thomas Huddleston, Migration Policy Group

The Senate chamber on Parliament Hill on May 28, 2013, in Ottawa. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Senate expenses referee chosen

POLITICS

Up to 40 senators will have spending challenged

The Senate is turning to a former justice of the Supreme Court of Canada to referee any disputes arising among senators over dubious expense claims flagged by the auditor general.

It's the latest attempt by the Senate to get ahead of what is widely expected to be a critical report on past spending practices.

Ian Binnie will be called to intervene in cases where senators who are ordered to pay back disallowed expense claims opt to challenge either the findings of the report or the amount they are required to repay.

But Binnie may not be that busy. Senators have already started repaying expense claims questioned by auditor general Michael Ferguson, ensuring they won't go to arbitration.

The repayments started shortly after Ferguson's audit teams walked into Senate offices almost two years ago and, according to Senate sources, have picked up steam in recent weeks since senators received their final audit results.

"Once we have the report we'll be able to determine who has repaid and whether that amount matches the amount in the report," said Senate spokeswoman Nancy Durning. "All amounts owing and paid will be made public, whether they happened before or after the report is released."

Senators in the most trouble with auditors are expected to avail themselves of the arbitration process, hoping to avoid a hefty repayment order, or having their file sent to the RCMP for review.

> **All amounts owing and paid will be made public.**
> Senate spokeswoman Nancy Durning

Senate sources who are familiar with the auditor's work say Ferguson is expected to recommend that 10 cases be referred to the RCMP.

Up to 30 other senators are expected to face repayment orders worth thousands — as high as $20,000 in at least one case — over travel claims that didn't involve Senate business, as well as questionable office contracts and housing claims.

Ferguson's report is expected to be delivered to the Senate some time next week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Loblaws recalls hummus

Loblaw Companies Ltd. is recalling a brand of hummus because it may contain a toxin.

The company says the recalled President's Choice Moroccan-style hummus may contain the toxin produced by staphylococcus bacteria, and it should not be eaten. Loblaw says the affected product was sold in 280-gram containers across Canada with UPC 060383133870 and best before date of June 14.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Progress on veterans' issues: Ombudsman

An analysis of whether the Conservative government is living up to its promises to improve the delivery of benefits for veterans suggests things are moving in a positive direction, the veterans' ombudsman says.

Veterans and the government still aren't in sync on what programs and services ought to look like, but there's been progress, Guy Parent said in an interview Tuesday. "We haven't closed any gaps but certainly there are some being narrowed," Parent said. "And I think they are being narrowed because the intent of the recommendations is being met."

It's been nearly a year since the House of Commons veterans affairs committee made 14 recommendations on improving the New Veterans Charter, the 2006 document that changed how benefits are delivered. The ombudsman has been calling for changes to various elements of the policy in a series of reports beginning in 2013.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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LAS VEGAS

World Series of Poker begins

If the World Series of Poker is lucky, the popularity of the Las Vegas championship's newest event could cause a poker chip shortage.

The annual set of 68 tournaments at the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino that rewards millions of dollars to the best card sharks starts Wednesday with a new event dubbed the Colossus expected to attract at least 10,000 players.

The Colossus represents the lowest buy-in in 35 years with players ponying up $565 US each to win their share of a $5 million prize pool, with the winner likely walking away with nearly $600,000.

The 45-year-old event now owned by Caesars Interactive Entertainment Inc. is also spreading the wealth for its $10,000 no-limit Texas Hold 'Em main event and hosting an online tournament that will end with a live poker matchup.

The World Series of Poker drew 82,360 players last year with 10 per cent winning some of the $227.7 million in prize money.

Lance Bradley, the editor in chief of poker news site Bluff.com, said the series has long worked to widen its appeal. But this year appeared to be unusually ambitious, catering to the regular guy who doesn't mind parting with $565 but would blush at spending $1,000, while still attracting "the pros who don't want to play against those guys."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ASYLUM SEEKERS

EU to relocate 40,000 migrants

The European Union will seek to shift the migration burden away from Italy and Greece by relocating 40,000 asylum seekers to other EU countries, according to a draft document seen by The Associated Press Tuesday.

The relocation proposal, to be unveiled by the EU's executive Commission on Wednesday, would see new Syrian and Eritrean asylum seekers shared among 23 of the 28 member countries over the next two years. Britain, Denmark and Ireland will not take part.

The move comes as the number of desperate migrants crossing the Mediterranean to get to Europe continues to rise, with more than 80,000 landing so far this year. The International Organization for Migration estimates that 1,820 other migrants have died or gone missing on that journey.

The influx has left countries like Italy, Greece, Malta, Germany and Sweden carrying the biggest burdens.

Under the emergency relocation plan, which would have to be endorsed by member states and the European Parliament, countries "will receive 6,000 euros ($8,100 CAD) for each person relocated on their territories" from EU coffers, according to the document.

Germany would accept the most asylum seekers over the two years — a total of 8,763 — while France would take in 6,752. Spain, which faces migration challenges of its own, would also take a significant share, accepting 4,288 people in need of international protection. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nepalese children play on Tuesday at a relief camp for survivors of the Nepal earthquake in Kathmandu. Hundreds of Nepalis gathered on Monday at the rubble of a 19th-century tower in Kathmandu to mark one month since a devastating earthquake killed more than 8,600 people in the Himalayan nation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nepal bans child travel without legal guardians

TRAFFICKING

Move aimed at protecting kids who lost homes in earthquakes

The government announced Tuesday that all children travelling in Nepal will need to be accompanied by their parents or a legal guardian to prevent the trafficking of young people who lost their homes in the country's powerful earthquakes.

The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare said the ban is aimed at protecting homeless children who are living in tent camps where there are large numbers of people.

Ministry official Ram Prasad Bhattarai said an approval letter issued by a district Child Welfare Board will be needed for any other adults travelling with children from one district to another.

The ban comes days after police stopped two groups of children who were being taken by unrelated adults by bus in different districts. The children are being held in government shelters and police are still investigating the cases.

International adoptions have also been suspended, he said.

Thousands of children are taken from Nepal to neighbouring India every year to work as child labourers or in brothels.

The earthquakes on April 25 and May 12 killed at least 8,673 people in Nepal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VIGIL

Hundreds of people have held a candlelight vigil in Nepal's capital to mark one month since the earthquake that killed thousands of people and affected millions. About 200 people gathered in the heart of Kathmandu on Monday evening to remember the dead.

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A David Cameron wax figure gets a touch-up at Madame Tussauds wax museum in London. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cameron eyes change in the EU

EUROPE

U.K. wants more national autonomy in the union

British Prime Minister David Cameron heads to continental Europe this week on a campaign to curtail EU involvement in national affairs.

France and Germany, meanwhile, want to move in the opposite direction.

Which formula is more likely to ensure the EU's survival is the issue Cameron will face on his trip — and the existential question the European Union is facing in the months to come.

Cameron is visiting Denmark, the Netherlands, France, Germany and Poland as he launches his mission to scale back the EU's political powers over member states on sensitive issues such as migration and welfare.

Without such changes, Britons may vote to pull the U.K. out of the EU altogether in a referendum Cameron has promised before 2017.

But France and Germany, whose post-war alliance formed the backbone of today's EU, have their own mission.

They sent an outline for closer economic co-operation in a letter to European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker reported by newspaper Le Monde. Juncker's spokesman Margaritis Schinas welcomed the idea Tuesday as "key" to solidifying the shared euro currency and European unity.

Cameron's official spokesman, Jean-Christophe Gray, said Tuesday that discussions about the eurozone shouldn't affect Cameron's trip this week. Britain does not use the euro.

But he conceded that the prime minister's trip might not be easy.

"Of course you'll have reports of ups and downs," Gray told reporters in London. "But he is very clear about the mandate that he has and his determination to secure the best deal for the British people."

The conflicting initiatives are not necessarily mutually exclusive. But they do highlight a fundamental cross-Channel rift, with Britain ever more reluctant to throw in its lot with the other EU nations under the leadership of juggernauts Germany and France.

Alain Dauvergne, an adviser at France's Our Europe institute, said Cameron is unlikely to win immediate support this week for his campaign, but is launching an "exploration" to establish how far EU partners are willing to go to give him "window dressing" that he can bring back to British voters to keep them from leaving the EU.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIA

Heat wave death toll tops 750

More than 750 people have died in southern India since the middle of April as soaring summer temperatures scorch the country, officials said Tuesday.

The southeastern states of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana have been the hardest hit.

More than 550 people have died from the unrelenting heat in Andhra Pradesh since May 13, state Deputy Chief Minister Nimmakayala Chinna Rajappa said.

Bhambal Ram Meena, a top state official in Telangana, said about 215 heat deaths have been reported since April 15.

Daily temperatures in both states have hit between 45 C and 48 C. Officials have urged people to stay hydrated and remain indoors as much as possible.

Hot, dry winds have also swept across most of north and central India, wilting plants and forcing people to avoid the outdoors. In the cities, large crowds of office workers gather around stalls selling cold drinks.

Weather officials say the sweltering temperatures are likely to continue in southern India for at least another week. Monsoon rains, expected to arrive in the southern state of Kerala in the first week of June, should bring some respite. The monsoon season runs through September as the rains gradually cover the entire country.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Twister kills 14 in Mexican border city

The body of a baby torn from a car by a tornado was found Tuesday in the northern Mexico border city of Ciudad Acuna as the death toll from the storm hit 14. Searchers found the baby's body amid the rubble of shattered houses. Earlier reports said the child had been in a baby carrier.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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University enrols Bitcoin

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Simon Fraser now accepts digital money on campus

A British Columbia university is now accepting the digital currency bitcoin at all of its bookstores, a move that staff claim is a first for Canadian post-secondary schools.

Simon Fraser University has also announced that automated bitcoin vending machines will soon begin operating on campuses in Burnaby, Vancouver and Surrey.

"What we're trying to do is get students to talk about innovation and try bitcoin," said Mark McLaughlin, SFU's executive director of ancillary services, in a news release.

"The only way to have an opinion about digital currencies is to learn about it, and we are providing a first-hand experience in that regard."

Lauren Shandley, Mike Yeung, Laurie Macpherson and Scott Nelson are shown in an undated handout photo. Yeung and Nelson have made the first bitcoin virtual currency donation to Simon Fraser University. The money will be used by Shandley and Macpherson for a humanitarian co-op project in India this fall. SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY-HO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bitcoin is a virtual currency that is transferred online without the help or regulation of any central bank.

The university broke new ground last year when it became Canada's first post-secondary institution to accept bitcoin donations.

"It is our mission to challenge and engage students and provide them with learning opportunities not only inside the classroom but also outside," said McLaughlin.

> **"It is our mission to challenge and engage students and provide them with learning opportunities.**
> Mark McLaughlin, with Simon Fraser University

Simon Fraser has one of the most active bitcoin student clubs in North America, which has been pushing for the school to introduce the currency, said McLaughlin.

SFU Bitcoin Club founder Michael Yeung likened the shift to the early days of the Internet.

"The coming era of virtual currencies is inevitable and exciting," said Yeung. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RETIREMENT PLANNING

Feds plan to explore savings options for Canadians

In a sudden about-face, the Harper government said Tuesday it's thinking about giving Canadians the option of hiking their contributions to the Canada Pension Plan — a measure that would help boost retirement savings.

With an election date less then five months away, the move looked like a surprise effort by the Conservatives to wrestle some ground away from their political foes.

The Tories have long opposed expanding the government-managed pension plan — an idea supported by the NDP — but Finance Minister Joe Oliver told the House of Commons that they intend to consult experts and stakeholders on the matter this summer.

The government's goal: explore ways that would allow Canadians to make voluntary add-on contributions to the CPP.

"We are open to giving Canadians the option to voluntarily contribute more to the Canada Pension Plan to supplement their current CPP retirement savings," said Oliver.

People need choices when it comes to their retirement savings, rather than being forced to make mandatory payments, Oliver said.

The subject of retirement income is expected to be a weighty election issue this fall and the Tories' opponents lined up to portray Tuesday's change of heart as crass political opportunism.

"They're trying to scoop up a few votes of those that are concerned about their pensions," said NDP finance critic Nathan Cullen.

"I don't know if they're actually going to do it. If they were going to do it, one would've imagined they would have done it already."

The NDP has long called for a CPP expansion to help Canadians save for retirement.

In 2010, then-finance minister Jim Flaherty proposed a "modest" mandatory CPP increase and rejected the idea of a voluntary one. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Taco Bell, Pizza Hut to use natural ingredients

Taco Bell and Pizza Hut say they're getting rid of artificial colours and flavours, making them the latest big food companies scrambling to distance themselves from ingredients people might find unappetizing.

Instead of "black pepper flavour," for instance, Taco Bell will start using actual black pepper in its seasoned beef, says Liz Matthews, the chain's chief food innovation officer.

The Mexican-style chain added it is removing artificial dyes from its offerings.

Critics said the purging is a response to unfounded fears over ingredients, but companies are rushing to change their recipes.

John Coupland, a professor of food science at Penn State University, said companies are realizing some ingredients aren't worth the possible harm they might cause given changing attitudes about additives. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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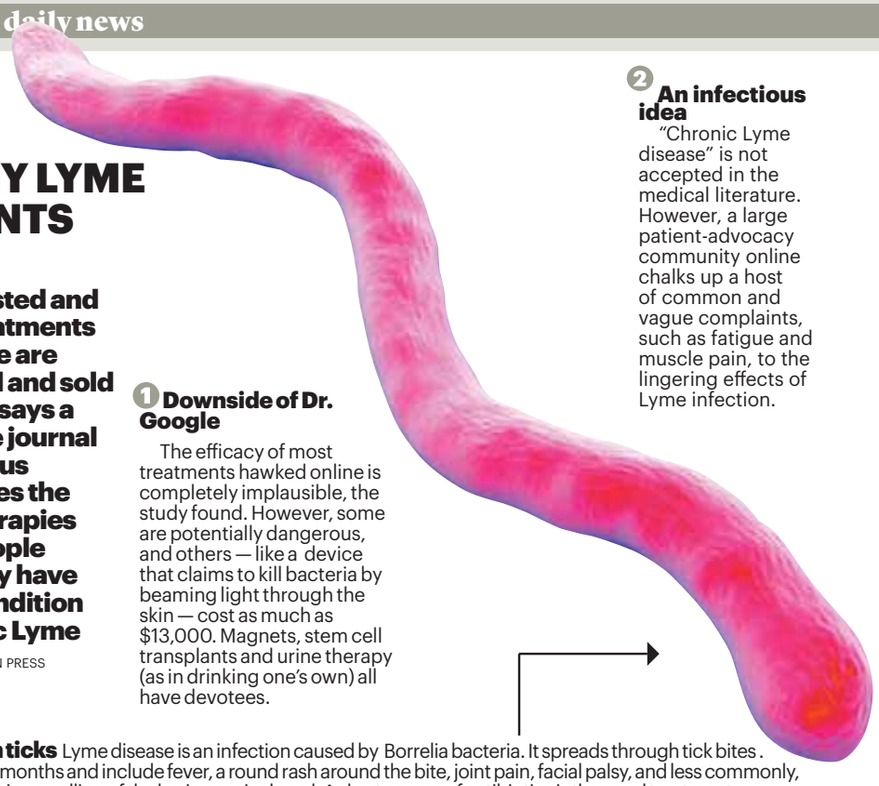
metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, May 27, 2015

THE BIG THING: DIY LYME TREATMENTS

A range of untested and unorthodox treatments for Lyme disease are being promoted and sold on the Internet, says a new study in the journal Clinical Infectious Diseases. It raises the alarm about therapies marketed to people who believe they have an unproven condition they call chronic Lyme disease. THE CANADIAN PRESS



1 Downside of Dr. Google

The efficacy of most treatments hawked online is completely implausible, the study found. However, some are potentially dangerous, and others — like a device that claims to kill bacteria by beaming light through the skin — cost as much as $13,000. Magnets, stem cell transplants and urine therapy (as in drinking one's own) all have devotees.

2 An infectious idea

"Chronic Lyme disease" is not accepted in the medical literature. However, a large patient-advocacy community online chalks up a host of common and vague complaints, such as fatigue and muscle pain, to the lingering effects of Lyme infection.

3 The trouble with ticks Lyme disease is an infection caused by Borrelia bacteria. It spreads through tick bites. Symptoms can last for months and include fever, a round rash around the bite, joint pain, facial palsy, and less commonly, potentially life-threatening swelling of the brain or spinal cord. A short course of antibiotics is the usual treatment.

The struggle to limit screen time — for cats

SOCIAL DISCOURSE

Omar Mouallem

I'm no longer the only one in my house addicted to technology. My cat Darwin is, too.

It started with one iPad app, Paint for Cats, which hilariously teases her with a cartoon mouse that squeaks and leaves behind multicoloured paw prints each time it's attacked. Now the paw prints are real, and they're all over my tablet, phone and TV screens.

Like most cats, she doesn't respond to her name. Yet the clicking of the Netflix menu is enough to bring her inside from the balcony, whether or not the dragonfly she's torturing at the moment is dead yet. She finds the spasmodic scrolling irresistible, and cries when it stops because she's blocking the remote sensor. She howls even louder when I decide on something to watch.

Darwin's not the only one with a problem. At least one SPCA, in Los Angeles, started accepting tablets as donations — and it's not to entertain the volunteers. Not primarily, anyway.

There's now a cottage industry of tailor-made videos and apps for cats. Little Hiccup, makers of Paint For Cats, which by 2012 had been downloaded over 300,000 times, have two other offerings. There's also Crazy Cat for Android, popular enough to earn 3,000-plus mostly positive reviews, and Enjoy With Cat, a two-player game for felines and their human companions. Not to be outdone, the cat-food brand Friskies now offers its own promotional cat games, which have been downloaded two million times so far.

There are many more but they're all engineered in the same way, with quick and jerky objects, according to Dr. Bonnie Beaver, executive director of the American College of Veterinary Behaviourists. As she recently explained to the Associated Press, "Cats are attracted to things that move, and that is the 'magic' for most of the apps."

It helps that cats, unlike dogs, have fast-adjusting pupils and depth perception and colour definition closer to our own. But while the harms of overusing computers are well documented for humans, could this digital catnip also be damaging and potentially distressing?

I'm wondering because these new gadgets have definitely had an effect on my pet parenting.

The morning after I first played Darwin her favourite YouTube video — 16 minutes of birds and squirrels — I found her waiting for me on the closed laptop, sitting regally and wide-eyed. Now I find it a handy distraction when her incessant nagging interferes with my work or my own enjoyment of the Internet.

It seems cats love the Internet as much as it loves them. There's now a cottage industry of apps for cats.

I can justify it as escapism for a housebound pet. I'm offering a healthy outlet for her basic instincts. But I know I'm really just suppressing her neediness — a quality only a dog owner could love.

So like a guilty but helpless parent, I just plop her in front of another screen. It's bad, I know. But it works.

Omar Mouallem (@omar_aok) is based in Edmonton and edits the Yards. Social Discourse appears every other Wednesday.

metroview

Sexual assault against men is less common, but no less traumatic

Angela Mullins

Maybe I should start a men's movement.

"You may as well," my wife told me the other day. She'd just endured my latest rant about a public-service announcement about sexual harassment and abuse.

The Ontario government ad is a universal case study in playing to the majority and ignoring the minority with hopes of creating change for all. What could have been a powerful message about everyone doing their part to make a difference has become part of an all-too-common narrative in our post-Jian Ghomeshi, post-Bill Cosby, still-unfolding Canadian military scandal reality: Men are perverse, women are victims.

For those who haven't seen it, the video plays out something like this: Four women are shown as victims, fielding everything from unwanted shoulder rubbing to having roofies slipped into a drink. At the end of it all, you're asked #WhoWillYouHelp.

The settings for the vile acts range from an office to what we can assume is a high school hallway. The women are from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds. Their ages vary. The same is true for the people taking advantage of them.

It's obvious the creators tried really, really hard to make the message relevant for everyone. Problem is, they missed the mark.

In the 61-second warning not to treat people like objects, every one of the predators has a penis.

I have, of course, seen the statistics. Although the numbers vary based on the source, about 80 per cent of sex crimes are directed at women. The abuse women face is generally more violent. And, because of that, they're more likely to die at the hands of their abusers.

But, for those men who do become targets, being a victim is, I'd imagine, no less painful and no less soul-sapping.

Despite the position of power they generally occupy due to the luck of chromosomal pairings alone, men have, in this instance, been swept under the rug. Those who dare mention their place in the sexual-abuse conversation run the risk of being considered anti-woman or, even worse, pigs.

It's sad that we've come to this point. Working against assault is, at its very root about treating everyone with respect and dignity, regardless of their gender or how likely they are to become victims.

To earnestly fight sexual assault, government campaigns — and others for that matter — must be all-inclusive, representing people of all stripes and, I hope, prompting storylines we've never heard.

Perhaps what I really should do is start a human movement.

Our slogan? How about: "Hey, hey, ho, ho, a collective conscience is the way to go."

Rosemary Westwood will return Thursday.

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PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan

PREMIER WYNNE: To HARM or PROTECT?

MORE THAN TWO YEARS AFTER DECIDING TO FUND KUVAN, WHY ARE NO PKU PATIENTS GETTING ACCESS TO THIS TREATMENT?

PKU (phenylketonuria) is a rare, inherited, brain-threatening disorder, where the body is unable to process phenylalanine ("Phe"), an essential amino acid found in dietary protein. The resulting build up of Phe in the blood is toxic to the brain, and if untreated, the impact can range from mild cognitive impairment to severe intellectual disability.

All provinces including Ontario introduced universal screening for PKU starting in the 1960s, allowing treatment to begin immediately after the condition is detected at birth. However, the first and only pharmaceutical treatment for PKU remains inaccessible to patients in Ontario who need it.

PROTECT

Funding for synthetic formulas & medical foods

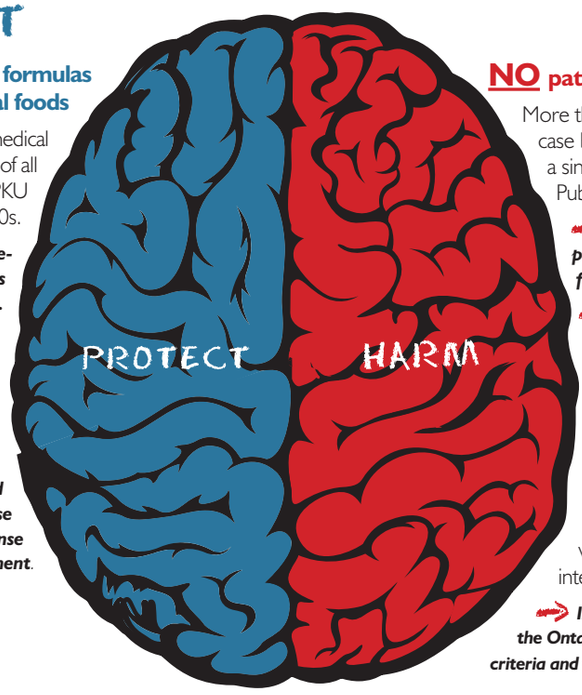
Ontario funds the low-Phe lsynthetic formulas and medical foods, which along with an almost total avoidance of all forms of dietary protein, have been the basis of PKU management since the 1960s.

➪ ***The majority of patients on formula and a Phe-restricted diet could have blood Phe concentrations above recommended limits.***

Listing of only drug for PKU: Kuvan

Health Canada approved Kuvan (sapropterin dihydrochloride) in April 2010 as the first and only pharmaceutical treatment for PKU.

➪ ***In February 2013, Ontario negotiated the best price in the world for Kuvan for those living with PKU who demonstrated a response to this treatment.***



HARM

NO patient access to only drug for PKU

More than two years after Ontario listed Kuvan on a case-by-case basis after negotiating the best price in the world, not a single patient has access to Kuvan through the Ontario Public Drug Program.

➪ ***Ontario's highly restrictive criteria are preventing patients who respond to Kuvan from qualifying for publicly-funded access to this brain-protecting treatment.***

➪ ***Since 2012, CanPKU has met several times with the Ontario Public Drug Program to raise concerns about the restrictive criteria, but no changes have been made.***

NOT consulting physicians or following treatment guidelines

The Ontario government has not followed international guidelines for the use of Kuvan that were released in February 2014 and developed by international PKU experts.

➪ ***In March of 2014, Ontario physicians who treat PKU wrote to the Ontario Public Drug Program to express concerns with the Kuvan criteria and suggest revisions, but the government has not listened.***

MORE THAN 60 YEARS AGO, Sheila Jones of England was the first PKU patient to be successfully treated with a low-Phe synthetic formula to compensate for the protein-restricted diet.

TODAY, the developing brain of 14-year-old PKU patient Cande Baigorria of Oakville, ON is being protected from toxic blood Phe levels. She follows a restricted diet, including synthetic formula and medical foods, and takes Kuvan on a compassionate basis through the manufacturer. **Otherwise, Cande would not be able to access Kuvan.**

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care must immediately change the restrictive criteria for Kuvan to help protect patients from this brain-threatening disease.

Tell Premier Kathleen Wynne, Health Minister Eric Hoskins and your MPP to protect the brains of Ontarians living with PKU by emailing them at www.CanPKUAction.org.

A message from Canadian PKU and Allied Disorders Inc.

CANADIAN PKU AND ALLIED DISORDERS INC.

Elizabeth Arden Introduces Prevage National Week May 23-29, 2015

The one-man show of Oyelowo

HBO MOVIE

Selma actor rises to his role in Nightingale

Lisa Weidenfeld
Metro | New York

While actor David Oyelowo might be best known to some audiences for his stellar performance as Martin Luther King Jr. in the epic civil rights drama Selma, by the time he filmed his breakthrough role, he'd already completed work on Nightingale.

The movie, which stars only him and premieres on HBO this Friday at 9 p.m., tells the story of the deteriorating mental state of a vet named Peter Snowden as he tries to keep his life together after committing a very brutal act. Oyelowo is virtually unrecognizable as the same performer who played Dr. King — the only parallel between the movies is that they're both produced by Brad Pitt's production company, Plan B. We talked to him about being your own co-star and working with Pitt.

The film occasionally feels almost like a play, in the sense that it's a one-man show. Did that have any impact on how you made it?
I did learn it like a great big monologue. I didn't do what you may otherwise do, which is that you learn your lines for any given scene a couple of days before you actually shoot it. I felt that the level of immersion that I would want to subject myself to in playing this character would mean that I didn't really want to be in the head space of technically learning lines whilst shooting, so I did learn like you would a play. But then the rest of the experience was that of a filmmaking one in terms of the nature of the way we shot the film. Because it's very intimate in the way that theatre can't be. He's expressing very dark thoughts at times, right up close into the camera, and that employs a very different part of your artillery as an actor than the stage does.

Did you find yourself recalibrating your performance at all, since it's just you onscreen?
I don't feel like I did recalibrate what I would normally do as an actor. It was just doing what felt right and true for playing this particular role. I don't think we did anything that was technically different, per se, than what you would do in any other given film, but because of who he is, the way he expresses himself, the fact that this is a guy who will happily have a conversation with a three-way mirror, means that the realms of the orthodox ways of either shooting a film or interacting with another character are kind of out of the window, so you're just doing whatever feels truthful given Peter Snowden's circumstances.

Peter spends a lot of time on the phone, either talking to people, or rehearsing talking to people. Was someone on the phone with you at those times?
We actually made the choice to never have anyone on the other end of the line. It was something I felt very strongly about because there are times with Peter where there is someone on the other end of the line and there are times when there isn't. It is someone he has manufactured in order for him to live with himself. The film starts with Peter having committed a heinous act and he has a mental condition that means that dealing with the repercussions of both what he has done and who he is, is something that he is constantly pushing away ... We wanted to keep the audience guessing as to whether he's actually talking to someone other than himself.

This is the second time you've worked with Brad Pitt, who also produced Selma. Do you think you're drawn to similar types of projects?
It's funny, because we've now had two projects together, but actually my friendship with him is very much linked to us being dads with lots of children. He has six, I have four, and we get together every now and again and watch our children tear the place up. But yes, we worked together on Selma, and Nightingale was born out of that. While I was doing Selma, we had already shot Nightingale and Dede Gardner and Jeremy Kleiner, who both run Brad's company Plan B, I showed them the film, which we had finished at that time ... They saw it, showed it to Brad, and I remember him saying, my goodness, what a thing to go from Dr. King to Peter Snowden. His connection with Nightingale was very much from an actor's point of view. I think he was very interested in an actor putting themselves through that exercise.

> **I don't feel like I did recalibrate what I would normally do as an actor. It was just doing what felt right and true for playing this particular role.** David Oyelowo

David Oyelowo is the solo star of Nightingale. CONTRIBUTED

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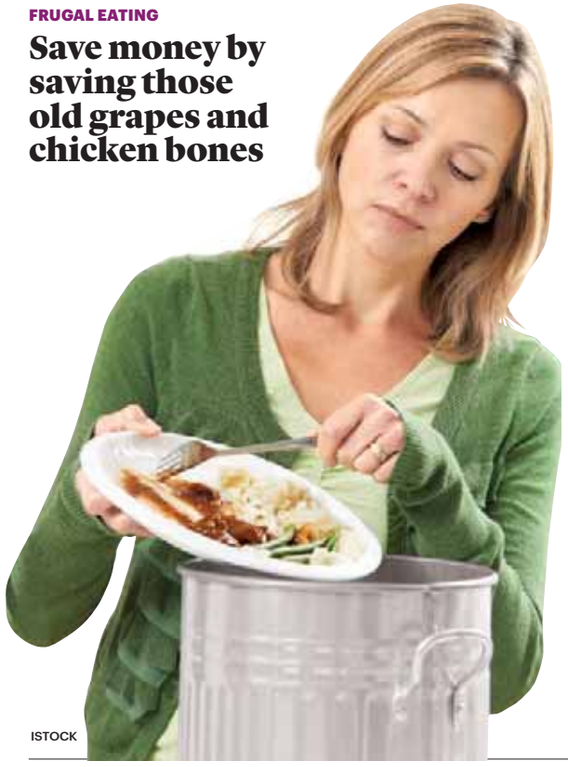
Wait! Don't waste that food

FRUGAL EATING

Save money by saving those old grapes and chicken bones



ISTOCK

WORD OF MOUTH
Theresa Albert
myfriendinfood.com

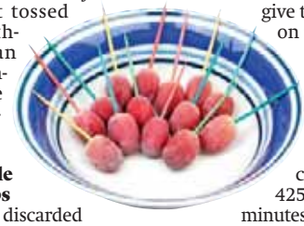
Worldwide, 1.3 billion tonnes of food is wasted, with most of it spoiled by grocery stores or food service outlets. In Canada, according to a study commissioned by KitchenAid, that amounts to a $40.28 household loss each and every week. People go hungry while palatable food goes to waste. That is a load of garbage. There a few things you can do at home to keep more money in your pocket and food from the dump:

Soggy lettuce

There really isn't anything you can do with it once it gets to the wilty, smelly point but you can prolong its life. Just slip a piece of paper towel in with the lettuce to help absorb the moisture and keep for a couple more days. Each time you open the box, wipe the condensation from the lid and replace the paper.

Grapes

The skins of red grapes contain the very same resveratrol that is so good for you in your red wine. When they start to lose their plumpness, throw them in the freezer. They are great tossed in smoothies or can be a stunning ice cube alternative.



Vegetable scraps

The Top 3 discarded vegetable scraps are onion skins, celery and carrot ends. All are loaded with nutrients, especially onion skins, which contain a critical anti-aging nutrient called quercetin. Store them in a freezer bag until it is full and then simmer into a nourishing vegetable broth.

Chicken bones

I never throw away chicken bones — there are nutrients and flavour in there! Even the ones on my family's plates get tossed into a broth because I know that any bacteria will be boiled away.

Broccoli stalks

You know you can peel these and chop into salads, right? But if you really love your dog, toss them into the freezer and give to Fluffy as a treat on a hot afternoon.

Parmesan ends

Too hard to grate, but great nonetheless! Chop into small cubes and bake at 425 F for five to 10 minutes to turn into crisp croutons.

Not only is hunger a crying shame, frugal is the new black.

Theresa is an on-camera food and health expert, nutritionist and writer who loves to spread the word on food.

RED WINE

Fire it up

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy

While most Canadians see barbecuing as a rite of spring and summer, in other parts of the world, cooking with fire is a daily activity that's only one prayer shy of a religion.

In South Africa, its national holiday, Braai Day, is named after the Afrikaans term for grilling. In Australia, way back in the early '80s, Crocodile Dundee's Paul Hogan starred in a series of commercials that ended with him offering to "slip an extra shrimp on the barbie for ya."

Argentina gives both a run for their marinade with its traditional asado: a word that encompasses how they cook and the festivities that ensue during the meal. When it comes to a barbecue wine pairing, I prefer a medium-bodied red with a touch of spice, which makes a drop like Argentina's 2013 Alamos Malbec ($13.09-$15.99) a perfect match. Made by Bodegas Catena Zapata, it oozes dark berry fruit, lip-smacking licorice and a hint of pepper that meets meat head on.

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CANADIAN PREMIERE

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The long wait Between episodes

NEW

Jennette McCurdy explains why you can't binge on her Netflix show

Ned Ehrbar

Jennette McCurdy is the pregnant daughter of a minister in the new Netflix series Between. CONTRIBUTED

Netflix is trying something different with Between, the new series about a town quarantined after a virus kills off everyone 22 and up. Instead of letting viewers binge-watch all six episodes, Netflix is doling out the instalments one at a time each week, like traditional TV. But don't worry, series star Jennette McCurdy is here to help you wrap your mind around that.

No binging, OK?
I prepared all of my friends because when they found out I was doing a Netflix show they were like, 'I'm going to watch it so fast. Like I'm going to watch it faster than anyone!' And I was like, 'No you're not.' But I think this is a good way for the audience to stay invested and keep the conversation going. And there are only six episodes, so it's not like you're going to have to be like, 'Oh my God, this is a half-year commitment.'

If you're a fan of...
It has sci-fi elements, it's a survivalist thriller, it has romantic elements — it's the kind of show that I enjoy watching. To me, it resembles a younger version of Lost, which is my favourite dramatic show ever, so that was very exciting for me. I have tremendous respect for all of the actors on that show. I don't know how they endured it. I'm sure they deal with a lot of people giving them flak when they're just trying to get tomatoes at Ralph's.

It won't leave you hanging
There are some unsolved mysteries to keep viewers curious and invested, but I do think that there are a lot of character arcs and a lot of resolution that can act as a satisfying payoff so you feel like at the end of the first season, 'OK, some of my questions were answered.'

> **I think this is a good way for audiences to stay invested and keep the conversation going.**
> Jennette McCurdy talking about Netflix's decision to release Between in week-by-week episodes instead of all at once.

Who she plays
My character is Wiley Day, and she's the pregnant daughter of a minister. She's really rebellious and rough around the edges, but ultimately she's very sensitive and highly insecure. She does not have the most nurturing of mother skills. She doesn't have any semblance of a maternal instinct.

She's not your typical hero
Wiley is really real. She seemed, like, against the base of archetypes that we see where it's somebody who's very strong and knows exactly what she's doing — the girl who's got it all together and she's strong-willed and she's smart and she's got a great smile, too.

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TOURS

Life on the road not so bad for Swift

Taylor Swift doesn't want your pity, OK?

"Sometimes I really don't think it's that hard at all," she says of life on tour. "When I was starting out, I'd go on tour for three months and I was gone for three months. Now almost 10 years in, thank God we get to play bigger shows, so I don't have to play as many. If we're playing stadiums, I'll do two or three a week, not five shows a week, then I get to fly home in between. It's not that bad."

Sure, but there must be something about her current world tour that's bringing her down, right? "I do have to leave the cats behind when I leave the country, which is the hardest part."

You listening, Johnny Depp? We all have to make sacrifices. NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

GOSSIP NOTES Brand's sobriety, celibacy

How to be celibate

Russell Brand is anticipating a visit to Australia later this year will make it hard to keep his current clean-living vows.

"Can anyone be celibate, not drink and not smoke and be political in Australia? As soon as you land, all those things go out the window," he said during a radio interview.

He at least has a new, drastic means to keep him celibate: "Now I've got myself a heavy book — not to read, but to slam it shut on my penis a couple of times a day."

Sure, sounds fine, but what about the drinking and smoking? NED EHRBAR/FOR METRO

Depp's Down Under doggie difficulties

AUSTRALIA

If convicted, Depp could face 10 years in prison

Ned Ehrbar

Johnny Depp is back in the U.S. this week after getting into hot water in Australia for smuggling his two pet Yorkshire terriers into the country on his private plane, violating quarantine laws, but authorities in the lower hemisphere aren't done with him just yet.

If the case goes to court and Depp is found guilty, he could face up to 10 years in prison and a $265,000 fine, according to the Sydney Morning Herald for allegedly smuggling in Pistol and Boo.

Johnny Depp is accused of smuggling Pistol and Boo (inset photo) into Australia.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES, EXCEPT INSET: FACEBOOK.COM

The dogs were apparently only discovered after visiting a dog grooming salon.

"If we start letting movie stars — even though they've been the Sexiest Man Alive twice — come into our nation (and break the laws), then why don't we just break the laws for everybody?" Australian Minister of Agriculture Barnaby Joyce says.

And you know what? He raises some very good questions, but is he suggesting that Australia isn't already a completely lawless anarchic free-for-all? Because if so, I've been sorely misled.

Also, shouldn't Depp have those Sexiest Man Alive titles stripped now, one for each Yorkie?

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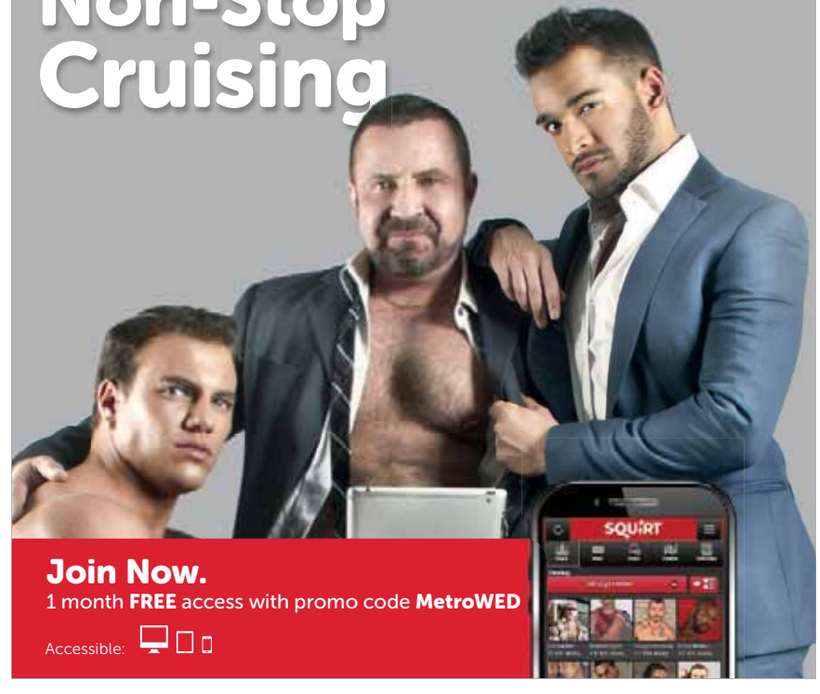

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Fast food aims for healthy glow

RESTAURANTS

Giant chains scramble to purge artificial flavours, hues

Taco Bell and Pizza Hut say they're getting rid of artificial colours and flavours, making them the latest big food companies scrambling to distance themselves from ingredients people might find unappetizing.

Instead of "black pepper flavour," for instance, Taco Bell will start using actual black pepper in its seasoned beef, says Liz Matthews, the chain's chief food innovation officer.

The Mexican-style chain also says the artificial dye Yellow No. 6 will be removed from its nacho cheese, Blue No. 1 will be removed from its avocado ranch dressing and carmine, a bright pigment, will be removed from its red tortilla strips.

Matthews said some of the new recipes are being tested in select markets.

North America's biggest food makers are facing pressure from smaller rivals that position themselves as more wholesome alternatives.

Chipotle in particular has found success in marketing itself as an antidote to traditional fast food. In April, Chipotle announced it had removed genetically modified organisms from its food, even though the U.S. Food and Drug Administration says GMOs are safe.

Artificial dyes risk alienating some fast-food customers, who prefer "real food" ingredients. ISTOCK

Critics say the purging of chemicals is a response to unfounded fears over ingredients, but companies are nevertheless rushing to ensure their recipes don't become disadvantages.

In recent months, restaurant chains including Panera, McDonald's and Subway have said they're switching recipes for one or more products to use ingredients people can more easily recognize.

Taco Bell and Pizza Hut are owned by Yum Brands Inc., which hinted the changes would be on the way. At a conference for investors late last year, Yum CEO Greg Creed referred to the shifting attitudes and the desire for "real food" as a revolution in the industry.

Pizza Hut says it will remove artificial flavours and colours by the end of July. Taco Bell says it will take out artificial colours, artificial flavours, high-fructose corn syrup and unsustainable palm oil from its food by the end of 2015. It says artificial preservatives will be removed "where possible" by 2017.

> **I do not want to lose any element of being accessible to the masses.**
> Brian Niccol, Taco Bell CEO

The moves do not affect fountain drinks or co-branded products, such as its Doritos-flavoured taco shells.

Brian Niccol, the chain's CEO, said the company would work to keep its menu affordable.

"I do not want to lose any element of being accessible to the masses,'' Niccol said.

When asked whether the changes would affect taste, a representative for Taco Bell said in an email: "It will be the same great tasting Taco Bell that people love."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REAL CHANGE?

John Coupland, a professor of food science at Penn State University, said companies are realizing some ingredients may not be worth the potential harm they might cause to their images, given changing attitudes about additives.

Taco Bell and Pizza Hut say they're getting rid of artificial colours and flavours, as some customers might find such ingredients unappealing.

Coupland also noted that the removal of artificial ingredients can be a way for companies to give their food a healthy glow without making meaningful changes to their nutritional profiles.

For instance, Coupland said reducing salt, sugar or portion sizes would have a far bigger impact on public health.

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inc Research

Land of tea craves caffeine fix

GOURMET COFFEE

Japanese wait in four-hour lineups to try U.S. chain's java

Japan, famous for green tea, is welcoming artisanal American coffee roaster Blue Bottle with long lines that have at times meant a four-hour wait for a cup.

The company, which began in Oakland, Calif., in 2002, hopes its early popularity is more than a passing fad. Japan's consumer culture is littered with manias for Western food imports: pancakes, popcorn, doughnuts, even Taco Bell.

Success in Japan is important for Blue Bottle, which operates 17 cafés in the San Francisco Bay area, New York and Los Angeles. Japan is its first foray outside of the U.S. Blue Bottle raised nearly $26 million (all figures U.S.) last year to invest in expansion, including financing from Silicon Valley executives, setting the stage for a test of whether an artsy gourmet coffee chain can go big.

Founder James Freeman, a musician, was inspired by Japan's old-style "kissaten" coffee-shops: tiny, dimly lit establishments, with good music and a barista behind a wooden counter.

Think places for quiet serious thinking and real drip coffee, not sweet, frivolous drinks.

"We care about every part of the coffee. We call it from seed to cup," said Saki Igawa, the business operations manager for Blue Bottle in Japan.

A barista brews coffee at a Blue Bottle Coffee shop in Tokyo. Japan is the first foray outside the U.S. for the artisanal coffee roaster, which hopes that an artsy gourmet coffee chain can go big in a country famous for tea. SHUJI KAJIYAMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **We care about every part of the coffee. We call it from seed to cup.**
> Saki Igawa, Blue Bottle Japan

Attention to detail that dovetails with aspects of Japanese culture accounts for part of the coffee chain's early popularity. The spread of Starbucks internationally, which has created a cookie-cutter coffee culture that some people want to trade up from, is another factor. Blue Bottle is also benefiting from the image problems in Japan of fast food chains and highly processed foods.

"It's a new era in eating out," said food industry consultant Jotaro Fujii, who contends that Blue Bottle's arrival and the decline of McDonald's in Japan is part of a bigger trend of consumer interest in the safety and quality of the entire food supply chain.

McDonald's is suffering declining popularity in Japan, a problem exacerbated after plastic pieces, and even a tooth, was found in its food last year, setting off outrage among consumers.

Upscale burger chain Shake Shack, which started as a hot dog stand in New York, is expected to arrive in Japan soon, said Fujii.

Such chains, including Blue Bottle, are likely to aim for 50 or at most 100 outlets in Japan, not the thousands that fast-food eateries, such as McDonald's, have achieved here, he said.

Instead, they will focus on fortifying a brand image, which can lead to other kinds of lucrative businesses.

Although the prevalent image of Japan might be tea, it has long had plenty of affection for coffee. Starbucks has been a hit since arriving in 1995. It now has more than 1,000 shops in Japan.

Japan also invented "mangakissa," or a café-cum-library, where you can curl up with a comic book and sip on coffee for hours.

Such newcomers have hammered the once omnipresent kissaten. Their numbers have dropped by half from the 1980s, or to 77,000 in 2009, according to a government study.

But Blue Bottle's popularity is part of a rediscovery of cafés serving carefully prepared, quality coffee, a trend long evident in the U.S.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GIFT OF BEANS

'I just love the taste,' says customer from rural area

On a recent day, the Blue Bottle shop in Kiyosumi, Tokyo, was filled with sunlight pouring through huge windows, the hum of a giant roaster, the aroma of fresh coffee and a crowd of people.

Takuya Nakagawa, a 39-year-old hairdresser, who came all the way from rural Toyama Prefecture (state), was impressed. He bought granola and coffee beans as souvenir gifts.

"I just love the taste," he said. "This kind of place doesn't exist in Toyama."

Blue Bottle is learning from Japan, said Andrew Smith, 29, of San Francisco, a barista and one of three Americans who came to work for the chain in Japan.

"People here have different ways of conceptualizing about coffee so they taste things differently," Smith said.

"They are looking for different kinds of things in coffee. And that is a fun way to learn how everyone in the world perceives coffee differently."

Blue Bottle is drawing big crowds in Japan. SHUJI KAJIYAMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MIKE GOETZ/FOR METRO

REVIEW

Chevrolet Trax reveals its agility, usefulness

Mike Goetz
Metro | Canada

Like the rest of the world, Canada is becoming increasingly urbanized. According to Statistics Canada, back in the 1920s, less than 50 per cent of Canadians were urban folk. Now it's more than 80 per cent and climbing.

Vehicle design has reflected this shift, and none more so than crossovers based on subcompact vehicle platforms. These subcompact crossovers can get off-road dirty, owing to their optional AWD systems and slightly higher ground clearances, but they're really built for urban conditions, where they can offer up tall-in-the-saddle visibility, small-car manoeuvrability, and "just big enough" insides, for the couples and singles that inhabit the condo towers.

Chevrolet Trax was one of the first crossovers to really work this urban agenda, debuting back in 2013, and concentrating on two areas that have high appeal for its intended audience — safety and connectivity. Like many Chevrolets, Trax is ready to be hooked up to OnStar, and its available 4G LTE Wi-Fi hotspot. After the free trial period, however, you will need to pony up for monthly subscriptions for OnStar itself, and for a Wi-Fi data plan.

Bluetooth is standard. Rear vision camera and rear obstacle detection, and Bluetooth streaming audio, are standard on the top 2 trim lines (LT, LTZ). More electronic wonders can be had with MyLink (optional on LT, standard on LTZ), which offers a nice big touch screen, and smartphone integration to leverage lots of fun and useful apps, including Siri Eyes Free.

A plethora of airbags, and a body structure composed of 66 per cent high-strength steel, enabled Trax to ace the crash tests, one of the select few in its class to do so.

Another bright spot is ample room for four adults, though rear seat passengers will have a big bend in their knees if they're tall-ish.

Fuel efficiency is another strong suit.

In other aspects the Trax is average, or less. The interior design is useful and looks great, but also has big sections of hard plastic.

The 1.4-litre turbo is a bit loud and a bit challenged to accelerate smartly on the highway, but the transmission shifts well, and the high top gear allows for relaxed cruising.

Trax is a decent example of a great, new vehicle form, which can confidently fulfil a lot of urban transportation needs.

THE CHECKLIST | 2015 CHEVROLET TRAX

THE BASICS

Type. Five-door, front-wheel drive/AWD subcompact crossover
Engine (hp). 1.4-litre inline turbocharged four-cylinder (138)
Transmission. Six-speed automatic
Price. Base $19,130 (plus destination)

POINTS

- Uses the same platform as the Sonic, Chevrolet's subcompact sedan and hatchback.
- Available in four trim lines, the top 3 available with optional all-wheel drive.
- An IIHS Top Safety Pick.

MIKE GOETZ/FOR METRO

COOL FEATURES

- Available OnStar 4G LTE creates a Wi-Fi hotspot, which allows passengers to connect multiple devices to wireless Internet.
- Available Siri Eyes Free connects iPhone to vehicle's audio system.
- Ten standard airbags.

MARKET POSITION

- Subcompact crossovers are typically purchased by twentysomethings and empty-nest baby boomers, who like a small car's agility and economy, but want and need more utility.
- This segment is expected to grow substantially.

THE COMPETITION

Jeep Renegade
Base price: $19,995

Subaru XV Crosstek
Base price: $24,995

Kia Soul
Base price: $16,995

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Hydrogen car paces at NASCAR

KIA

New engine to use less gas

Kia's in-house designed 1.0-litre T-GDi three-cylinder turbocharged engine made its debut at the recent Geneva Motor Show in Switzerland as the first of the automaker's range of downsized, high-efficiency powerplants. The team that developed it aimed for a 10 to 15-per cent improvement in fuel efficiency over the brand's current efficiency-leading 1.6-litre gasoline-direct-injection (GDi) engine.

TEXT AND IMAGES BY WHEELBASE MEDIA

RACING

Mirai marks first for race

In a move that makes it look almost progressive, NASCAR recently approved the use of a hydrogen fuel cell-powered vehicle — the limited-edition, hand-built Toyota Mirai sedan — to pace one of its races, albeit one sponsored by the Japanese automaker. The Mirai pace car led the field at the Toyota Owners 400 NASCAR Spring Cup race at Virginia's Richmond International Raceway.

THE GREEN ANGLE

Metro's weekly picks for the latest in environmental news

FORD

Aluminum OK in crash safety

Ford's lighter-by-300-kilograms 2015 F-150 pickup truck is not only supposed to be kinder to the environment, but now also boasts a five-star rating for crash safety from the United States National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHSTA). The five-star rating, bestowed on the 2015 F-150 SuperCrew model, is the administration's highest score for overall safety. Some media critics had questioned the aluminum pickup's crashworthiness, but the NHTSA's new rating is expected to put those concerns to rest once and for all. The automaker said the aluminum-bodied F-150's lighter weight allows it to fit the truck with smaller and more efficient engines that, through turbocharging, produce the kind of power only larger engines used to be able to make.

LUXURY CARS

Hydrogen may power LS Sedan

Toyota's luxury division, Lexus, is mulling a hydrogen-powered LS sedan based on the technology underlying the Mirai hydrogen fuel-cell sedan. The model would likely be based on the next-generation LS. The fuel-cell LS would reportedly weigh several hundred pounds less than the current LS hybrid model. The vehicle would feature a "power unit" combining a 150-kilowatt fuel cell and a 295-horsepower electric motor, with enough on-board hydrogen storage to give the car a driving range just shy of 650 kilometres.

LET'S COOK

Audi introduces synthetic diesel fuel

Audi's research facility in Dresden, Germany, has produced the first batch of a synthetic diesel fuel that uses only carbon dioxide extracted from the air, electricity and water, reports Autoweek magazine. The process involves high-temperature electrolysis where water is heated to produce steam, which is then broken down into its constituent elements, hydrogen and oxygen. The hydrogen then reacts with carbon dioxide under high pressure and temperature to form a liquid composed of long-chain hydrocarbon compounds. Dubbed "blue crude" the liquid is refined to produce "e-diesel," which Audi said is free of sulphur and aromatic hydrocarbons; it's odourless, produces no soot and is more readily ignitable than traditional diesel fuel. "If we can make widespread use of CO2 as a raw material, we will make a crucial contribution to climate protection and the efficient use of resources, and put the fundamentals of the 'green economy' in place," said Germany's Minister of Education and Research Johanna Wanka in an Autoweek report.

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Eligible customers will receive $500 towards the purchase finance of a new 2015 Focus (excluding S), Fiesta (excluding S), C-MAX, Fusion, Mustang (excluding 50th Anniversary, Shelby GT350), Taurus, Edge, Flex, Expedition, Transit Connect, Transit, E-Series Cutaway, Transit Van/Wagon/Cutaway/Chassis Cab, F-250 to F-550 models, and $750 towards the purchase finance of a new 2015 Escape and F-150 models (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Only one (1) bonus offer may be applied towards the purchase finance of one (1) Eligible Vehicle. Taxes payable before offer amount is deducted. Offer is raincheckable. *Until June 30, 2015, receive 0% APR purchase financing on new 2014 Edge and 2015 Mustang (excluding 50th Anniversary, Shelby GT350), Flex and Escape models for up to 60 months, and 2015 Focus, Fiesta, Fusion, Taurus and F-250 to F-450 (excluding Chassis Cabs) models for up to 72 months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: $25,000 purchase financed at 0% APR for 36/60/72 months, monthly payment is $694.44/$416.66/$347.22, cost of borrowing is $0 or APR of 0% and total to be repaid is $25,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. **Until June 30, 2015, lease a new 2015 F-150 (excluding Regular Cab XL 4x2 Value Leader) or Fusion for up to 24 months, 2014/2015 Edge or 2015 Flex for up to 36 months, 2015 Focus, Taurus, or Escape for up to 48 months, and get 0% APR on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Lease a model with a value of $30,000 at 0% APR for up to 24/36/48 months with an optional buyout of $15,600/$13,200/$10,800 and $0 down or equivalent trade in, monthly payment is $600.00/$466.67/$400.00, total lease obligation is $14,400.24/$16,800.12/$19,200.00, interest cost of leasing is $0 or 0% APR. Additional payments required for PPSA (RDPRM for Quebec), registration, security deposit, NSF fees (where applicable), excess wear and tear, and late fees. Some conditions and mileage restrictions apply. Excess kilometrage charges are 12¢ per km for Fiesta, Focus, C-MAX, Fusion and Escape; 16¢ per km for E-Series, Mustang, Taurus, Taurus X, Edge, Flex, Explorer, F-Series, MKS, MKX, MKZ, MKT and Transit Connect; 20¢ per km for Expedition and Navigator, plus applicable taxes. Excess kilometrage charges subject to change, see your local dealer for details. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. ±Program in effect from May 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015 (the "Program Period"). To qualify, customer must recycle their vehicle through a Ford dealership by turning in a 2008 model year or older vehicle that is in running condition (able to start and move and without missing parts) and has been properly registered/plated or insured for the last 3 months (the "Criteria"). Eligible customers will receive $1,000 towards 2014/2015 Edge, Flex and 2015 Fusion, Fusion Hybrid, Fusion Energi, Mustang (excluding 50th Anniversary, Shelby GT350), Explorer, Escape and Expedition, $2,000 towards 2015 Taurus, Transit Connect, E-Series Cutaway, Transit Van, Transit Wagon, Transit Cutaway, F-150 (excluding XL 4x2), and $2,500 towards 2014 F-150 (excluding Raptor) and 2015 F-250 to F-550 (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Vehicles of 2014 model year may qualify for the offer depending on available inventory – see dealer for details. Taxes payable before incentive amount is deducted. To qualify: (i) customer must, at the time of the Eligible Vehicle sale, demonstrate to the dealer / provide the dealer with sufficient proof of Criteria and a signed original ownership transferring his/her vehicle to the authorized recycler; and (ii) the Eligible Vehicle must be purchased, leased, or factory ordered during the Program Period. Limit one (1) incentive per Eligible Vehicle sale, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales if valid proof is provided that the customer has 2 separate qualifying recycled vehicles. Offer is transferable only to persons domiciled with the owner of the recycled vehicle. Offer is transferable only to persons domiciled with the owner of the recycled vehicle. Offers only valid at participating dealers. Retail offers may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. For factory orders, a customer may either take advantage of eligible raincheckable Ford retail customer promotional incentives/offers available at the time of vehicle factory order or time of vehicle delivery, but not both or combinations thereof. Retail offers not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). 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Grand Vitara, grand dynamics

USED VEHICLE

Fuel gauge on 2006-2012 models should be checked

The third-generation Suzuki Grand Vitara launched for model-year 2006 in the fall of 2005, offering four or six-cylinder engines with up to 230 horsepower, an off-road capable 4x4 system with low-range gearing and a lockable centre differential and plenty of ground clearance.

Owners have loved the SUV for actual off-road capability.

Although Suzuki's automotive sales operations have ceased in Canada, the brand is still alive and active here, and many Suzuki dealers have full service automotive shops to take care of warranty and repairs of their automotive products. Check with the nearest Suzuki centre to you, to be sure.

Ask sellers of 2006-2012 Grand Vitaras if they've experienced any issues with the fuel gauge, and note any sudden movements on the fuel gauge during your test drive.

Confirm proper operation of all interior lighting, especially relating to illumination of the gear selector, radio head unit, and instrument cluster.

Also confirm all power windows and the sunroof operate properly, noting any issues with the panel opening or closing properly. If the sunroof fails to respond or stays stuck open, the switch may need replacing.

A few owners have reported issues relating to overheating, especially on models with the four-cylinder engine and while working the vehicle hard, for instance, towing on a hot day. This might be caused by an air bubble that blocks coolant flow.

As a precaution against potential engine damage, have the cooling system inspected and serviced on any used Grand Vitara you're considering.

Have a mechanic inspect the engine for signs of an oil leak from the timing cover area, which could be evidence of a bad timing chain cover gasket and/or a bad timing chain tensioner.

JUSTIN PRITCHARD/FOR METRO

Features

Flexible storage, heated leather seats, air conditioning, automatic climate control, in-cabin air filter, power locks, power windows, a CD changer and HomeLink are all available.

What owners like

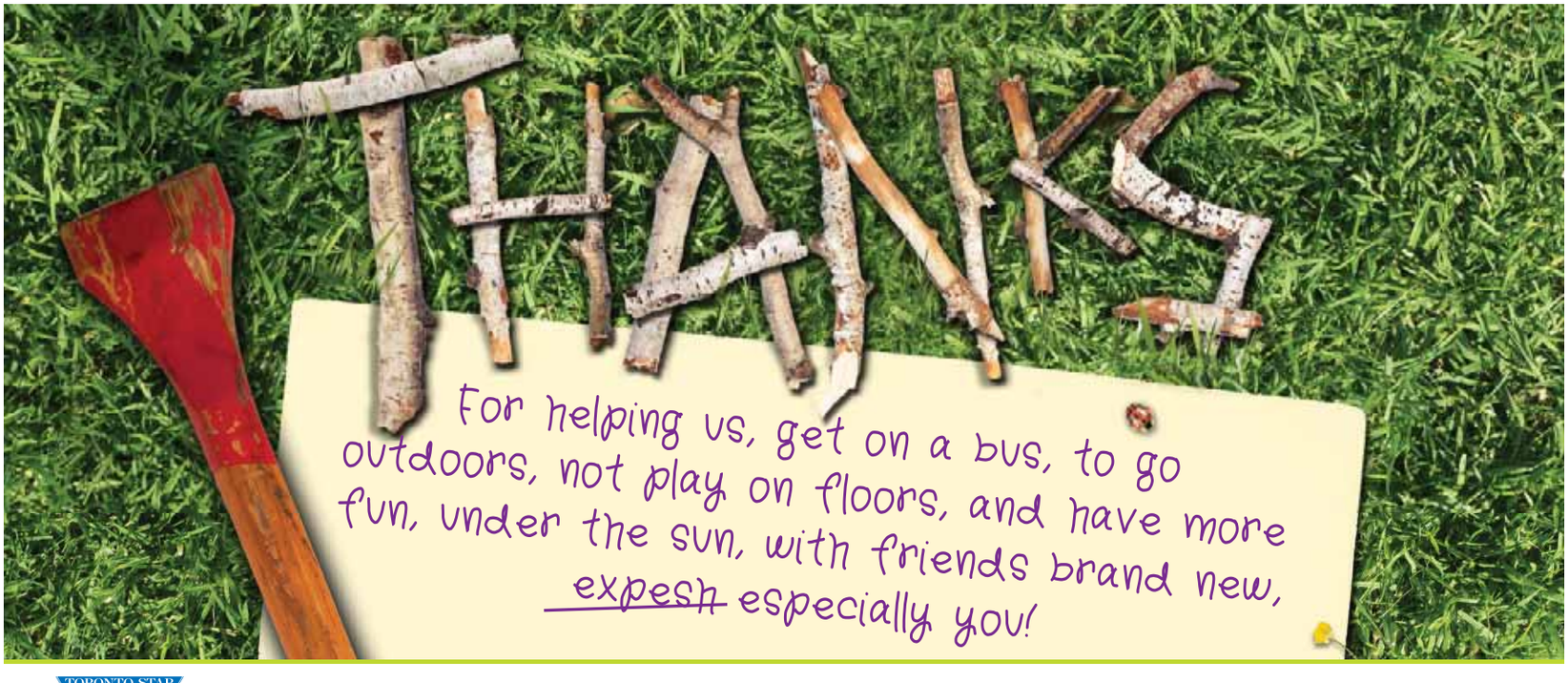
The agile and sporty appearance, generous off-road capability, and the availability of low-range gearing for help on challenging terrain.

What owners dislike

Heavy fuel consumption and stiff and uncomfortable back seats. Some owners wish for a richer selection of materials inside, too.

The verdict

Grand Vitara appeals for its use of a high-capability 4x4 system and relatively confident off-road capabilities.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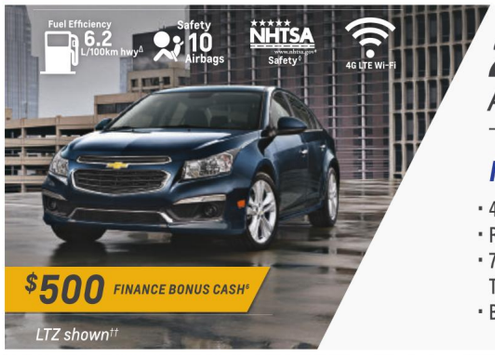

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Other cash credits available on most models. See dealer for details. ▼/*/◆◆/***Freight & PDI ($1,600/$1,650), registration, air and tire levies and OMVIC fees included. Insurance, licence, PPSA, dealer fees and applicable taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2015 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Quantities limited; dealer order or trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers, in whole or in part, at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ††2015 Cruze LTZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies: $28,639. 2015 Equinox 1LZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies: $39,164. Dealers are free to set individual prices. **The 2-Year Scheduled Lube-Oil-Filter Maintenance Program provides eligible customers in Canada, who have purchased, leased or financed a new eligible 2014 MY Chevrolet, Buick or GMC vehicle (excluding Spark EV), with an ACDelco oil and filter change, in accordance with the oil life monitoring system and the Owner's Manual, for 2 years or 40,000 km, whichever occurs first, with a limit of four (4) Lube-Oil-Filter services in total, performed at participating GM Dealers. Fluid top-offs, inspections, tire rotations, wheel alignments and balancing, etc. are not covered. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. General Motors of Canada Limited reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ▲Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details. **1** Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any model year 1999 or newer car that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2015 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac car, SUV, crossover and pickup models delivered in Canada from May 1, 2015 – June 1, 2015. Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive) and credit value depends on model purchased: $500 credit available on Chevrolet: Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Volt, Trax, Malibu (except LS), Buick Encore and Verano; $750 credit available on other Chevrolet, Buick and GMC vehicles (except Chevrolet: Colorado 2SA, Camaro Z28, Malibu LS, Silverado Light Duty and Heavy Duty, GMC: Canyon 2SA, Sierra Light Duty and Heavy Duty); $1,000 credit available on Cadillac vehicles (except 2015 Cadillac Escalade) and $1,000 on all Chevrolet Silverados and GMC Sierras. Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. **2** Offer applies to eligible current owners or lessees of any Pontiac/Saturn/SAAB/Hummer/Oldsmobile model year 1999 or newer car or Chevrolet Cobalt or HHR that has been registered and insured in Canada in the customer's name for the previous consecutive six (6) months. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2015 model year Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac car, SUV, crossover and pickup models delivered in Canada from May 1, 2015 – June 1, 2015. Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive): $1,000 credit available on Chevrolet: Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Volt, Trax, Malibu (except LS), Buick Encore and Verano; $1,500 credit available on other eligible Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac vehicles (except Chevrolet: Colorado 2SA, Camaro Z28, Malibu LS, GMC Canyon 2SA and 2015 Cadillac Escalade). Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GMCL dealer for details. GMCL reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. **3** 0% purchase financing offered by GMCL for 72 months on 2015 Chevrolet (Sonic/Cruze LS, LT, LTZ, ECO/Malibu LT, LTZ/Equinox). O.A.C by RBC Royal Bank/TD Auto Finance Services/Scotiabank. Rates from other lenders will vary. Example: $10,000 at 0% APR, monthly payment is $119.05 for 84 months. Cost of borrowing is $0, total obligation is $10,000. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly/bi-weekly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. **4** 0% leasing for 24/36 months available on 2015 Chevrolet Malibu, Impala, Trax & Silverado 1500; for 24/36/48 months available on 2015 Chevrolet Sonic & Cruze; on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Example: Based on a purchase price of $17,450 (including $1,000 lease credit, and $442 owner cash) for a 2015 Chevrolet Cruze LS 1SA. Bi-weekly payment is $90 for 24 months at 0.0% APR, on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km, $0.16 per excess kilometre. OAC by GM Financial. Monthly/bi-weekly payments may vary depending on down payment/trade. A down payment or trade of $0 and/or $0 security deposit is required. Total obligation is $4,696. Option to purchase at lease end is $11,312. Price and total obligation exclude license, insurance, registration, taxes, dealer fees and optional equipment. Other lease options are available. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time offer which may not be combined with other offers. See your dealer for conditions and details. General Motors of Canada Limited reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. **5** Offer valid to eligible retail lessees in Canada who have obtained credit approval by and entered into a lease agreement with GM Financial, and who accept delivery from May 1, 2015 – June 1, 2015 of any new or demonstrator 2015 model year Chevrolet Cruze. General Motors of Canada will pay one month's lease payment or two bi-weekly lease payments as defined on the lease agreement (inclusive of taxes). After the first month, lessee will be required to make all remaining scheduled payments over the remaining term of the lease agreement. PPSA/RDPRM is not due. Consumer may be required to pay Dealer Fees. Insurance, licence and applicable taxes not included. Additional conditions and limitations apply. GM reserves the right to modify or terminate this offer at any time without prior notice. See dealer for details. **6** Offer available to retail customers in Canada who purchase finance and take delivery of an eligible vehicle from May 22, 2015 – June 1, 2015. $500 Finance bonus cash applies to new 2015 Chevrolet Sonic, Cruze, Impala, Trax and $750 Finance Bonus cash applies to new 2015 Chevrolet Silverado Light Duty & Heavy Duty and Equinox. Finance Bonus cash includes HST/GST/QST/PST as applicable by province. Limited time offer, which cannot be combined with special lease rates or cash purchase and with certain other consumer incentives. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without notice. See dealer for details.

DETAILS

Cruiser facts and figures

- It takes workers about 5.5 hours to outfit a vehicle for police use.
- It's believed the first motorized police vehicle was an electric patrol wagon, used in Akron, Ohio, in 1899. It included a gong and a stretcher.
- Ford's Police Interceptors have to be capable of withstanding a 120 km/h crash from the rear.

JIL McINTOSH/FOR METRO

Ford's Police Interceptor SUV is based on an Explorer, but outfitted for law enforcement. FORD

Don't judge a police car by its cover

ON THE JOB

Ford reveals specifics of law enforcement vehicles

Jil McIntosh
For Metro

Other than the flashing lights and paint scheme, most police vehicles generally look similar to their civilian siblings. But they're considerably different under the skin, and built from the ground up for the hard life of a law enforcement vehicle.

"These are not retrofitted vehicles," says David Shuttleworth, commercial sales manager of Ford Canada. "They're built in Chicago at the same plant as the regular Taurus and Explorer, but they have unique features fitted to them before they come off the end of the line, and then they go to another facility for their final upfits."

Their engines and transmissions are tuned for optimum acceleration, but they also need to use as little fuel as possible and run cool when they idle, which they often do for long periods of time. Their anti-lock brakes and traction control are also uniquely tuned, and they have heavy-duty brakes, wheels, tires, suspension components, and alternators.

In the front, the seats are upholstered in heavy-duty cloth, and have sculpted backs so officers can sit comfortably while wearing their utility belts. In addition to a white dome light, there's also a red one for surveillance work. While civilian vehicles have console-mounted gear shifters, Ford's Police Interceptor sedans and SUVs don't have a centre console, and their shift levers are on the steering column. The gap between the front seats is the same as in the discontinued Ford Crown Victoria, so police forces that used the old model can simply move their equipment into the new vehicles.

"The dash is unique to these vehicles," Shuttleworth says. "There's a universal mounting tray, reinforced with steel, on top of the dash so you can mount something like a camera."

The rear seats are covered in vinyl, and the door panels are flat, without pockets or cupholders. There are rear door handles, lock buttons, and window switches, but these can be disabled so "police customers" can't get out.

Beyond the standard equipment, police forces can choose from some 125 different options and packages. These include ballistic door panels, equipment mounting plates, and "mapable" steering wheel buttons, which can be programmed for such tasks as turning on the lights or siren. Cars can also be outfitted with a trunk tray to hold equipment, or a lockable vault to hold drugs or weapons when they're transported from a crime scene.

> **They're way different from anything you'd buy retail**
> David Shuttleworth, commercial sales manager of Ford Canada

"These vehicles can only be purchased by law enforcement, and not by civilians," Shuttleworth says. "Structurally and dynamically, they're way different from anything you'd buy retail, because they have a different job to perform."

TECH

Sonata nets Android Auto

All new Sonatas sold in the U.S. with a navigation system will now come with Internet search giant Google's smartphone-mirroring technology on board as standard.

What's more, any owners of an existing 2015 Sonata can also activate Android Auto via a free software update.

Like Apple's Car Play, Google's Android Auto brings the best and most useful features of a smartphone safely to a car's dashboard.

Car companies have so far struggled to bring either Apple's or Google's systems to their production models, partly because they have been trying to develop in-car systems that support both technologies. AFP

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*MSRP of $19,995/$25,995 on 2015 IMPREZA 2.0i (FF1-20)/2015 FORESTER 2.5i (FJ1 X0). Lease rate of 0.9%/0.5% for 48/39 months. Monthly payment is $198/$298 with $2,991/$2,688 down payment. Option to purchase at end of lease is $9,944/$13,983 with $3,604/3,375 due on signing. Advertised pricing consists of MSRP plus charges for Freight/PDI ($1,595 on 2015 Impreza; $1,650 on 2015 Forester), Air Tax ($100), Tire Stewardship Levy ($27.15), OMVIC Fee ($5), Dealer Admin ($199). Freight/PDI charge includes a full tank of gas. Taxes, license, registration and insurance are extra. $0 security deposit. Models shown: 2015 Impreza 2.0i Limited Package with Optional Technology Package (FF2LPE) with an MSRP of $29,395. 2015 Forester 2.5i Touring Package (FJI TP) with an MSRP of $29,995. Dealers may sell or lease for less or may have to order or trade. Offers applicable on approved credit at participating dealers only. Lease based on a maximum of 20,000 km per year, with excess charged at $0.10/km. Leasing and financing programs available through Subaru Financial Services by TCCI. Other lease and finance rates and terms available; down payment or equivalent trade-in may be required. Vehicles shown solely for purposes of illustration, and may not be equipped exactly as shown. Offers available until June 1, 2015. See your local Subaru dealer for complete program details. ‡Ratings are awarded by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS). Please visit www.iihs.org for testing methods.

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FINANCE† OR LEASE≠ FOR AS LOW AS **0%** APR ON ALTIMA 2.5 FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS TERM

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SL AWD Premium model shown▲

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THAT'S LIKE PAYING ONLY **$59**◆ WEEKLY ON ROGUE S FWD

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1.8 SL model shown▲

2015 NISSAN SENTRA

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SR AT model shown▲

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***Equivalent lease payments of $59/$36 on the 2015 Rogue/2015 Sentra must be made on a monthly basis and cannot be made weekly. Weekly lease payments are for informational purposes only.** †The $500/$1,000/$1,000 additional cash discount offer is valid on the purchase financing or lease (at inception) of all new 2015 Micra SV and SR trims/Sentra/Rogue. $500/$1,000/$1,000 is comprised of $350/$750/$700 NCF cash and $150/$250/$300 dealer participation. Offer is available to eligible customers for a limited time from May 1 – June 1, 2015 on approved credit only. Offer is based on stackable trading dollars. The discount will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Applicable to Nissan Canada Finance (NCF) contracts only through subvented and standard NCF finance rates or subvented NCF lease rates. Not combinable with fleet discounts and not applicable to cash purchase buyers. Offer not eligible for program protection. Certain conditions apply. †Representative finance offer based on a new 2015 Altima 2.5 (T4LG15 AA00)/2015 Micra SR MT (S5SG55 AA10) transmission. Selling Price is $24,627/$17,039 financed at 0%/0% APR equals 60 monthly payments of $410/$284 for a 60/60 month term. $0 down payment required. Cost of borrowing is $0/$0 for a total obligation of $24,627/$17,039. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Conditions apply. $1,000/$500 cash bonus included in advertised offers applicable only on the 2015 Altima 2.5 CVT (T4LG15 AA00)/2015 Micra SR MT (S5SG55 AA10) transmission. ≠Representative monthly lease offer based on any new 2015 Rogue S FWD (Y6RG15 AA00)/2015 Sentra 1.8 S M6 (C4LG55 AA00). 1.99%/0.9% lease APR for a 60/60 month term equals monthly payments of $255/$158 with $0 down payment, and $0 security deposit are due at lease inception. Prices and payments include freight and fees. Lease based on a maximum of 20,000 km/year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $15,319/$9,486. These offers are only valid from May 1 – June 1, 2015. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. $1,000/$1,000 cash bonus included in advertised offers applicable on the 2015 Rogue S FWD (Y6RG15 AA00)/2015 Sentra 1.8 S M6 (C4LG55 AA00). Conditions apply. ▲Models shown $36,732/$26,099/$18,449 Selling price for a new 2015 Rogue SL AWD Premium (Y6DG15 BK00)/2015 Sentra 1.8 SL (C4TG15 AA00)/ 2015 Micra® 1.6 SR 4AT (S5SG75 AE00). ◆$9,998 MSRP price for a new 2015 Nissan Micra® 1.6 S, MT (S5LG55 AA10) Conditions apply. **/◆◆Freight and PDE charges ($1,750/$1,567/$1,567/$1,695) air-conditioning levy ($100) where applicable, applicable fees (all which may vary by region), manufacturer's rebate and dealer participation where applicable are included. License, registration, insurance and applicable taxes are extra. Lease offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers except stackable trading dollars. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers, prices and features subject to change without notice. Offers valid between May 1 – June 1, 2015. ††The Nissan Loyalty Offer ("Offer") is available only to eligible customers who (as of Feb. 1, 2015) lease/leased, finance/financed or own/owned a 2009 or newer Nissan brand vehicle (an "Existing Vehicle"). Eligibility for the Offer will be determined by Nissan Canada Inc. ("NCI") in its sole discretion. Proof of current or previous ownership/lease/finance contract will be required. Offer is not transferrable or assignable, except to a co-owner/co-leasee of the Existing Vehicle who resides within the same household as the intended recipient of the Offer. If the eligible customer elects to lease or finance a new and previously unregistered Nissan brand vehicle (excluding NV, Fleet and daily rentals) (an "Eligible New Vehicle") through NCI and Nissan Canada Financial Services Inc. (collectively "NCF"), then he/she will receive a specified amount of stackable loyalty dollars ("Loyalty Dollars"), as follows: (i) Micra/Versa/Sentra ($500); (ii) Juke/Altima/Rogue ($600); (iii) Frontier/Xterra/Leaf/Murano/Pathfinder ($800); and (iv) Maxima/Z/Titan, Armada/GT-R ($1000). Loyalty Dollars will be applied before taxes. Alternatively, if the eligible customer elects to purchase or lease/finance an Eligible New Vehicle (excluding GT-R and Leaf®) other than through NCF, then he/she will receive a three-year/48,000 kilometer (whichever comes first) Oil Change and Tire Rotation Plan which consists of a maximum of 6 service visits, each consisting of 1 oil change (using conventional 5W30 motor oil) and 1 tire rotation. For complete details on the Oil Change and Tire Rotation Plan, ask your dealer. Offer has no cash redemption value and can be combined with other offers. Offer valid on Eligible New Vehicles purchased/leased/financed and delivered between May 1 - July 31, 2015. Conditions apply. Model(s) shown for illustration purposes only. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice. While quantities last. Ask your dealer or visit www.nissan.ca for complete details. Nissan names, logos and slogans are trademarks owned by or licensed to Nissan Motor Co. 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metro SPORTS
Your essential daily news

Maple Ridge, B.C., 'keeper Karina LeBlanc will retire after Canada's bid at the Women's World Cup

Sam firmly in spotlight

CFL

New Alouette wants to excel while inspiring gay athletes

Michael Sam signed a two-year deal with the Alouettes last week. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

While Michael Sam would prefer to be just another football player, he knows there is a unique responsibility that comes with being the first openly gay athlete in the CFL and one of only a tiny minority in North America's major professional leagues.

Signed to a two-year deal by the Montreal Alouettes last week, Sam tried to downplay the significance of the move during a news conference Tuesday, repeatedly saying he just wants to play football.

But when asked if he regretted coming out in February 2014, the defensive end was adamant it was the right decision.

"I've set in motion a lot of stuff," he said. "I have a responsibility to handle myself the right way and carry myself the right way so future athletes who may be straight, gay, bisexual, whatever, they can be inspired just by what I'm doing.

"If you're afraid of what your family might think, if you're afraid you think you might be disowned, I'm your family. Come to me and I'll be a part of your family."

The 25-year-old Sam was selected in the seventh round of the 2014 NFL draft by the St. Louis Rams, becoming the first openly gay player chosen by an NFL team. He was later cut by the Rams and from the Dallas Cowboys' practice roster.

Sam is part of a tiny group of professional athletes who have chosen to go public about their sexual orientation. Retired NBA player Jason Collins came out in April 2013 while Los Angeles Galaxy soccer star Robbie Rogers is the lone out player in Major League Soccer. There are no openly gay players in Major League Baseball or the NHL. Derrick Gordon became the first openly gay player in Division I men's basketball last year.

> **He'll see that intelligent and enlightened people welcome him in this role in Canada and wish him luck.**
> Brian Burke, co-founder of You Can Play

Alouettes general manager Jim Popp, who had been scouting Sam for some time, said he believes the six-foot-two, 260-pound player can excel as pass-rusher in the CFL — so much so that the NFL will regret letting him go.

"I would love nothing more for him to spend his whole career here," Popp said,

"(But) there is such a small window in a football career, I hope he does so extraordinarily well that it's a benefit for our team (and) he gets another shot (at the NFL)."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Blue Jays walked off the White Sox with a three-run home run in the ninth inning on Tuesday night at Rogers Centre. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Jays' Donaldson begins and ends slugfest with a bang

Josh Donaldson hit a walkoff three-run homer to give the Toronto Blue Jays a wild 10-9 victory over the Chicago White Sox on Tuesday night at Rogers Centre.

Josh Thole led off the ninth inning with a single off Chicago closer David Robertson (3-1) and moved to third on a Jose Reyes double. Donaldson followed with his second homer of the game to give the Blue Jays their third straight win.

TUESDAY In Toronto

10	9
BLUE JAYS	WHITE SOX

Donaldson had four of Toronto's 13 hits and scored five times. Jose Bautista had three doubles and drove in five runs as the Blue Jays improved to 22-26.

The White Sox (19-24) had scored three runs off reliever Liam Hendriks in the eighth inning of the back-and-forth contest. Chicago has dropped four games in a row.

Donaldson opened the scoring in the first inning with a solo homer off Chicago left-hander John Danks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Bouchard tastes early defeat at French Open

Eugenie Bouchard says she hasn't been feeling like herself lately. That's an understatement, judging by her recent results on the court.

The Canadian tennis star continued her disappointing season Tuesday at the French Open, as the sixth seed was stunned 6-4, 6-4, by France's Kristina Mladenovic in the first round.

Bouchard has lost eight of her last nine matches combined on the WTA Tour and in Fed Cup play, and most of the defeats have been to players well below her in the WTA rankings.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Roy lauds Babcock contract with Leafs

Count Patrick Roy among the NHL coaches who applaud Mike Babcock's big contract with the Toronto Maple Leafs.

The Colorado Avalanche coach said Monday that the eight-year deal at $6.25 million per season Babcock signed last week was overdue and will eventually benefit all members of the profession. He also joked that he might look at asking for an extension when his own contract expires.

"I think Mike is probably one of the best coaches in our game," Roy said before he was honoured in a pre-game ceremony at the Mastercard Memorial Cup. "He's been in the league a long time and he earned that right." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hitchcock stays with Blues

The St. Louis Blues are sticking with veteran coach Ken Hitchcock for another season.

Ken Hitchcock THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Blues and Hitchcock on Tuesday announced a one-year contract. Financial terms were not disclosed.

Hitchcock took over as Blues coach during the 2011-2012 season. He has led St. Louis to an NHL-best 175-79-27 regular-season record since then.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL PLAYOFFS LIGHTNING LOOKING OVER THEIR SHOULDER Ben Bishop had a tough night in the crease on Tuesday night in Tampa, Fla. The Denver native was pulled after allowing five Rangers goals on 26 shots as the Lightning lost Game 6 of the Eastern Conference final 7-3. Game 7 goes Friday night at Madison Square Garden. MIKE CARLSON/GETTY IMAGES

City boys take over Toronto FC's turf

MANCHESTER CITY FRIENDLY

Pellegrini promises action from English giants

When Manchester City is in Toronto, a simple pre-game training session isn't just a practice.

It's an event.

Fans gathered outside BMO Field Tuesday then filtered into the west side stands. Stadium staff opens up concessions and merchandise as if it was game day.

Practice was a big deal, but it's yet to be seen how much importance Man City and Toronto FC will invest in Wednesday night's friendly at BMO Field.

TFC, after all, is trying to stay sharp and injury-free heading into an important MLS match against San Jose Saturday.

After defeating Southhampton 2-0 to finish then Premier League season Sunday, City jetted to Toronto to begin a tour of MLS. After Wednesday's friendly they'll fly to Houston to play the Dynamo. Then on Saturday they'll be at Yankee Stadium to watch New York City FC, the club with whom they share an owner, play Houston.

Manuel Pellegrini will have Sergio Aguero, the Premier League's top scorer, at his disposal when Manchester City face Toronto FC on Wednesday night. KARIM SAHIB/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Given those circumstances, neither club has much incentive to go all out, but City manager Manuel Pellegrini hopes the clubs will still entertain.

"I don't think that the teams will play as a final but I think we can see a beautiful game," the Chilean said.

During his media briefing Pellegrini parried persistent rumours that star midfielder Yaya Toure was seeking a transfer.

"Yaya is very happy here. The idea is that he will stay here."

He also sidestepped speculation that Man City will look to replace him when his contract expires next season.

"I never knew about any debate over my future," he said. "We have to finish ... the next season then after that we'll see what happens. It's important to be focused on our next season and try to be again the strongest team."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"It's not just to go kick about.

Toronto coach Greg Vanney hopes his team will use Wednesday's friendly to improve its on-field chemistry

TORONTO2015 TORCHRELAY RELAIS DE LA FLAMME

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PAN AM FLAME ARRIVAL CEREMONY

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Location: Canada Square, Harbourfront Centre
235 Queens Quay West, Toronto

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Time: 4 p.m.
Col. Chris Hadfield will arrive carrying the Pan Am flame at 5 p.m.

Location: The Distillery District
55 Mill Street, Toronto

For more information about these celebrations and the 41-day journey of the Pan Am flame, visit TORONTO2015.org.

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Warriors avoid major setback

NBA PLAYOFFS

Title bid in danger had Curry's fall been worse

One play, one fall, one bad break — that's all it takes to shift a series and derail a dream season.

Stephen Curry and the Golden State Warriors found out how fragile a championship chase can be in their Game 4 loss at Houston when the NBA MVP took a scary spill that nearly gave a storybook season a frightening twist.

Instead, the moment just serves as a reminder to both teams: nothing is over till it's over.

The Warriors will get another chance to close out the Rockets on Wednesday night at home and advance to the franchise's first NBA Finals in 40 years. Golden State, which leads the Western Conference finals 3-1, is eager to end the series now and avoid more opportunities for something strange to happen.

"We just don't want to come back to Houston," Warriors guard Klay Thompson said. "It's not going to be easy. They are here for a reason. We have to come and play with more intensity and play together and we'll win the game."

Eight months of work almost came crashing down for the Warriors when Curry jumped in the air as Trevor Ariza started to shoot a layup midway through the second quarter Monday night. Ariza saw him and stopped abruptly, causing Curry to tumble over him.

Curry's head hit the court hard and his arms bent awkwardly. He remained on the floor for several minutes, walked to the locker room looking stunned and returned in the second half after the team said he passed the league-mandated concussion tests.

"It could have been a lot worse," Curry said.

Warriors coach Steve Kerr said Tuesday, a travel day for both teams, that Curry is doing just fine — other than the bruise on his head — and should be ready to go for Game 5.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It could have been a lot worse.
Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry on his fall

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Game 4 of the Eastern Conference final.

Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry falls awkwardly to the floor in Game 4 of the NBA Western Conference finals.
KAREN WARREN/HOUSTON CHRONICLE VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Bolt warms up for worlds with 200m victory

Usain Bolt cruised to victory in the 200 metres race at the Golden Spike meet on Tuesday, as the Jamaican star prepares for the world championships after a season marred by injuries.

Facing rain and cold at the IAAF World Challenge event, Bolt had the slowest reaction of all the sprinters, his traditional problem. Still, the six-time Olympic champion came good and breezed unchallenged to victory in 20.13. Isiah Young of the U.S. finished second.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manziel back in training after 10 weeks in rehab

Browns quarterback Johnny Manziel is on the practice field in front of journalists for the first time since his release from rehab.

Manziel took part in Cleveland's first practice of the third phase of the team's off-season program. Manziel spent 10 weeks at Caron Addiction Treatment Center in Pennsylvania for an unspecified issue before being discharged on April 10. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MEMORIAL CUP GENERALS TOP ROCKETS IN QUEBEC
The Oshawa Generals' Cole Cassels celebrates with Tobias Lindberg after scoring against the Kelowna Rockets in Tuesday's Memorial Cup game in Quebec City. Oshawa earned a spot in the tournament final with a 2-1 win. JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

GIRO D'ITALIA CONTADOR CLIMBS HIGH IN STAGE 16
Alberto Contador showed off his climbing on the Mortirolo pass and extended his lead in the 16th stage of the Giro d'Italia on Tuesday. Contador moved 4:02 up on Mikel Landa, pictured, who posted his second straight stage win Tuesday. LUK BENIES/GETTY IMAGES

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RECIPE Pepper Stuffed with Quinoa and Charred Corn Salad

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

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Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- 1½ cups chicken or vegetable stock
- 1 cup quinoa
- 1 cup canned corn kernels, drained
- 1 cup diced broccoli
- 1 cup diced red bell pepper
- 2 Tbsp orange juice concentrate, thawed
- 2 Tbsp rice vinegar
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 tsp liquid honey
- 1½ tsp sesame oil
- 1 tsp minced fresh garlic
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh cilantro or parsley

Directions

1. Bring the stock to a boil in a saucepan. Stir in the quinoa. Reduce the heat to the lowest heat and simmer, covered, about 15 minutes. Drain off any excess liquid. Place in a serving bowl.

2. Spray a non-stick skillet with cooking oil and place over medium heat. Cook the corn, stirring frequently, until it begins to char, about five minutes over medium heat. Stir in the broccoli and red pepper. Cook for four minutes, or just until the vegetables begin to soften. Transfer to the bowl with the quinoa.

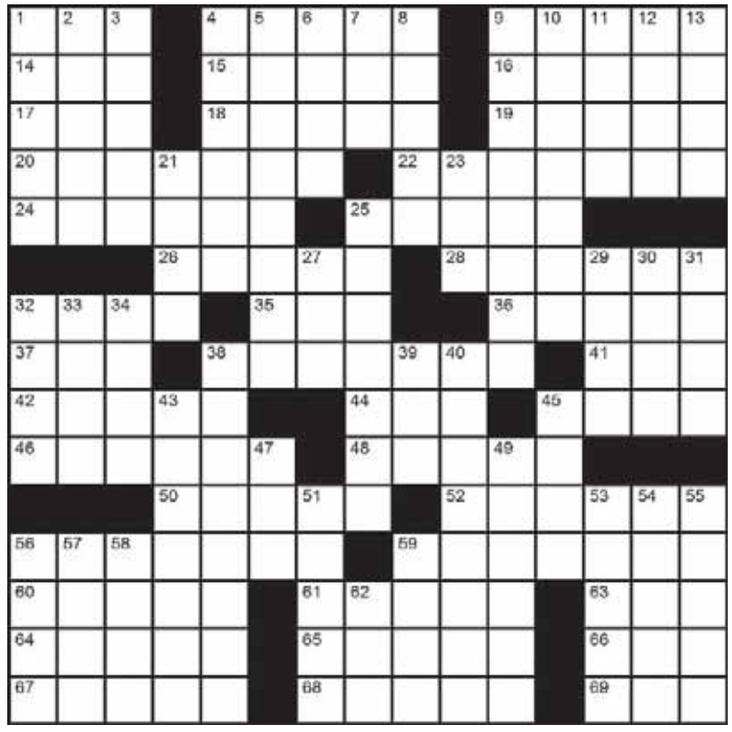
3. Add the remaining ingredients to the quinoa and toss to coat.

Nutrition per serving (recipe serves 6)
- Calories 167
- Protein 5.4 g
- Carbohydrates 21 g
- Fibre 4 g
- Total fat 5 g
- Saturated fat 1 g

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. 7's phone letters
4. Upper house area
9. Performing very well
14. Roman Numeral for 52
15. Liquid-Plumr competitor
16. Prefix with 'path'
17. Horiz.
18. More pink, as steak
19. Tablet of yore
20. Vatican VIP: 2 wds.
22. Bernhard __, Music Director of Symphony Nova Scotia
24. Virgil epic
25. Fraternity letter
26. Baby deliverer
28. Get
32. Soapbox
35. __-Wan Kenobi
36. Overhang
37. Grazing land
38. Town on Lake Ontario near Hamilton
41. A-L-B-E-R-T-A cheer starter, "Give me __ ' '!"
42. Web message
44. Ms. Zadora
45. Comedian's creation
46. Universe
48. PEI community
50. Mind your __ __ Qs
52. Most sky or ocean hued
56. Fettuccine __ (Pasta dish)
59. Medieval maladies
60. Artsy hat
61. "How do _ __?" (Is this outfit okay?)
63. Toronto-born musician Mr. Emmett
64. "Cease!" on the seas
65. __ Islands, in the North Atlantic
66. U2 song
67. Shampooing direction
68. Backyard buildings
69. But, to Brutus

DOWN
1. Silver: Spanish
2. Wealthy: French
3. Ambulance signal
4. Skillful
5. Secret stage exit
6. Weight allowance
7. 'Brilliant' suffix
8. Buckingham Palace dog
9. National __ of Quebec
10. Sort in sequence
11. Suffix with 'Poet'
12. Evening, fun-style
13. Theatre-__ (Play attendee)
21. Money in Mexico
23. Actor Mr. Tognazzi
25. Watched every penny
27. Baseball stat.
29. Alaskan island city
30. Prefix meaning 'Fire'
31. Tidy
32. Mr. Baldwin
33. Business note
34. Sheep sounds
38. Canadian brand of chocolate-covered raisins
39. 'S' of RSVP
40. Animosity; or, current Taylor Swift song: 2 wds.
43. Shania Twain's "That Don't __ Me Much"
45. Cozy
47. "__ Songs (Say So Much)" by Elton John
49. Land _'__ (Recreational region in Ontario); or, brand of margarine
51. __ __, ands or buts!
53. Overseas moneys
54. River of Paris
55. Pshawed
56. "Two guys walk into _ __..." (Joke intro)
57. __ Strauss & Co.
58. Ms. Drescher
59. Skin opening
62. Music note

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
There is a possibility you will find yourself in the wrong place, at the wrong time with the wrong people today. Don't worry, you will soon get back to where you should be. Next time, be more careful.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Play to your strengths. Focus on what you are good at. If someone asks you to do something that you doubt will work out, turn them down flat. You like a challenge but you like a challenge you can master better.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Will you be a heroic failure or a huge success? That depends on how soon you go after your target. Hold off until the weekend when the universe will be on your side.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Do the opposite of what your instincts tell you today. If you feel like speeding up, slow down. If you feel like slowing down, speed up. Everything is up in the air, including your own thoughts and feelings.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Whatever you worry about today don't worry about money. If you do, you are likely to make a rash decision. If you worry about anything, worry about worrying too much.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Question everything you hear today, even if it comes from a trustworthy source. While Mercury is moving retrograde you should take nothing on trust. With Mars strong, you could be ruinously impetuous. Play safe.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Do not, under any circumstances, get caught up in a neighbourhood dispute today. You may think you know how to resolve the situation but they won't listen. Worse, they may gang up on you.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
One minute you want to do one thing and the next minute you want to do something else. You are usually much more decisive than this. Come tomorrow you will be back to your old self.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You are focusing on the worst outcome to a situation that will likely never happen. Be positive and go to bed early for a change. Tomorrow the world will seem a rosier place.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Explore. Visit places you have never been before. Not only will it be fun but it will widen your outlook and make you realize how fortunate you are compared to most.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
What you fear the most is the one thing you least need to fear. With the planet Mercury moving retrograde things are sure to be jumbled up.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Whatever you are told by friends and family today you should act on the assumption that there are things going on behind-the-scenes that would change the picture completely if you knew about them. Maybe you don't want to know!

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

			2		7			
	6		5		9		1	
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2	5						4	8
				3				
4	8						9	6
		5				7		
	9		3		4		8	
			8		1			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 6/02

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Offer(s) available on select new 2015 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery from May 1 to June 1, 2015. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, environmental fee, and $100 A/C charge (where applicable). Excludes other taxes, licensing, registration, insurance, variable dealer administration fees, fuel-fill charges up to $100, and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. ‘“Don't Pay for 90 days” on select models (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on all new 2015 Forte and Sportage on approved credit (OAC). No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal interest monthly over the term of the contract. Offer ends June 1, 2015. ‘All 2015 Rio models are available at 0% APR Financing for 84 months. “**Representative Financing Example**: Financing offer available on approved credit (OAC), on new 2015 Rio LX+ AT (R0743F)/2015 Forte LX+ AT (F0743F) with a selling price of $18,664/$21,764 is based on weekly payments of $50/$68, and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,535, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax and A/C charge ($100, where applicable) for 84/60 months at 0% with a $0 down payment/equivalent trade, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Offer also includes $500 Loan Savings/$4,000 Bonus Cash. Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Offer ends June 1, 2015. Loan Savings vary by model and trim and are deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Available on financing offers only. ◊Bonus Cash amounts are offered on select 2015 models and are deducted from the negotiated purchase/lease price before taxes. Certain conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. ~Cash savings for 2015 Sportage LX AT FWD (SP752F) are $3,500 and available on cash purchase offers only. Cash savings vary by model/trim and are deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Cash purchase price for the new 2015 Sportage LX MT FWD (SP551F) is $23,544 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, A/C charge ($100, where applicable) and a cash credit of $3,500. Dealer may sell for less. Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Offer ends June 1, 2015. ‡Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2015 Forte SX (F0748F)/2015 Rio4 SX with Navigation (R0749F)/2015 Sportage SX Luxury (SP759F) is $26,695/$22,395/$38,495. ^ Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2015 Rio LX+ ECO AT/2015 Forte 1.8L MPI 4-cyl AT/2015 Sportage 2.4L 4-cyl AT. These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. The Bluetooth® wordmark and logo are registered trademarks and are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.